



MAN JAILED OVER HOMEMADE GUN

BY CHARLOTTE CALLEAR

A HEDNESFORD man has been locked up for seven years after his homemade handgun was found hidden behind a sink at his home.

The homemade pistol was found, with a live 410 cartridge in it, hidden in a black bag behind pipes at the back of a sink in Mark Bannister's home in September last year.

Police were acting on a tip-off when armed officers seized the gun and ammunition and arrested Bannister at the Ebenezer Street flat.



Mark Bannister – a gun was found at his flat in Hednesford



Police found the gun hidden behind a sink

Chief Inspector Sarah Wainwright, of Cannock Chase Local Policing Team, said: "This was potentially a very dangerous weapon."

"We're glad that Bannister is now behind bars and this weapon will now be destroyed," she added.

"We take the safety of our communities very seriously and will not tolerate this behaviour."

Councillor George Adamson, leader of Cannock Chase Council, said: "It is very bizarre."

"You do not hear much about that in quiet peaceful Cannock."

"It is the first time in years I have heard anything about firearms in the area, and I am pleased to say that."

"Thank goodness the public helped and the police responded very quickly," Councillor Adamson added.

"It is a shock, not what you would expect. I am glad they have caught him."

Bannister, aged 42, was sentenced at Stafford Crown Court on Friday to seven years behind bars.

He had pleaded guilty at a previous hearing to possession of a homemade handgun when prohibited for life.

Chief Inspector Sarah Wainwright, of Cannock Chase Local Policing Team, said: "This was potentially a very dangerous weapon."

"We're glad that Bannister is now behind bars and this weapon will now be destroyed," she added.

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SCHOOL'S STOLEN LANTERNS RETURNED A YEAR ON



Teacher Ellie Thompson and head Tina Blankley with the lanterns which have been returned to Chancel Primary School

HISTORIC lanterns worth more than £10,000 which were stolen from outside a school have been returned a year later.

The two copper art deco lanterns outside Chancel Primary School in Rugeley were stolen by crooks armed with a crowbar and drill on March 11, 2017.

But they have been recovered and returned thanks to information from members of the public and an appeal shown by Sgt Jamie McArthur, of Cannock Chase Local Policing

Team, on the BBC's Crimewatch Roadshow. Headteacher Tina Blankley said: "We are absolutely elated and delighted to have them back. I think it has been a real team effort."

"At the time, I was shocked and disgusted. We had given up hope. We just want to say a really huge thank you to everybody for their ongoing support. The fact that everybody has been so concerned about them, nobody gave up hope. I want to thank the paper, Crime-

watch, staff, children, police and members of the public. It is very difficult to put a value on them. They are original art deco lanterns from the 1930s."

"Hopefully we will restore them back to where they belong. We hope to get the steps in place to ensure they are secure and theft-proof to put them back where they belong."

A Staffordshire Police spokeswoman said: "Anyone with any information about the theft is asked to contact us on 101, quoting incident number 355 of 11 March."

MOVIES

Oscars sensation film to get another Cannock screening

THE Oscar-winning short film directed by Cannock's Chris Overton is returning to the big screen for a showing in his hometown.

Former Kingsmead School pupil and Wolves fan Chris, from Heath Hayes, and fiancée Rachel Shenton triumphed at the Academy Awards in Hollywood with their live action short film *The Silent Child*.

They had held a fundraising screening of the film at Cannock's Electric Palace Picture House beforehand to help pay for seven-year-old star Maisie Sly to fly out to the US.

Now they are returning as winners to the cinema for another screening and a Q&A session on April 15.

The event will raise money for Rachel's charity dDeaflinks Staffordshire – a local charity offering services to deaf people throughout Staffordshire.

Also, *The Silent Child* will have its TV premiere on BBC 1 at 7.45pm on Good Friday, March 30, it has been revealed.

Former Hollyoaks stars Chris and Rachel, best known for playing Mitzeeee Minniver and Liam McAllister in the Channel 4 show, hope to develop their film – which tells the story of four-year-old deaf girl Libby living in a world of silence – into a feature-length production.

Tickets for the Cannock screening, which begins at 7.30pm, at www.eventbrite.com/e/the-silent-child-special-oscar-cannock-screening-tickets-44283158118?aff=es2

POLICE

Appeal after couple conned out of £15k

AN elderly Great Wyrley couple have been scammed out of more than £15,000.

Police are appealing for help after the victims received a call from a man claiming to be an officer with the fraud squad based in London. He told them he was calling because there had been some unusual activity in the use of their bank card.

Over the next few days they were called several times and were eventually persuaded to withdraw £15,500 from two bank accounts on the pretext of helping police trace the fraudsters.

The cash was collected by someone posing as a courier using a given password on Tuesday last week.

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2 CONTENTS

LETTERS	8
CLUB NEWS	9
FOCUS ON...	13
MEMORY LANE	20
TV LISTINGS	28-29
PROPERTY	32
MOTORING	46
SPORT	59-60

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Artistic tribute to RAF on its 100th



One of David Bent's works

AN artistic tribute to the Royal Air Force – celebrating 100 years since it was formed – is to be unveiled.

The exhibition by leading aviation artist David Bent is to be shown at the National Memorial Arboretum.

Tribute 100 is a new collection of his work dedicated to the air force.

The RAF was formed towards the end of the First World War, on April 1, 1918, and is currently the oldest independent air force in the world.

The exhibition – the artist's personal tribute to the legacy of the RAF – will be on display in the Arboretum's Remem-

brance Centre from March 30 to June 30. The artist's pioneering approach to aviation art has attracted widespread support from the aviation community.

He said: "The Royal Air Force's attitude has always been progressive and cutting edge, out there. For me, their motto Per Ardua Ad Astra – through adversity to the stars – sums them up perfectly. From the earliest days, a century of hard work, imagination, skill and courage has taken the air force to the extremes of modernity and 3D space. This has provided the inspiration for my new collection of work." He has

used a variety of aircraft and propeller shapes representing 100 years of existence, attempting to evoke 'the spirit of that propulsive force that moves them forever forward, turning theory into evermore fantastical reality'.

He added: "I am very pleased that this collection is being launched at such a significant and meaningful place."

Sarah Oakden, head of marketing at the Arboretum, said: "This exciting exhibition will allow visitors to explore an amazing collection of colourful works that celebrate the contributions of the Royal Air Force."

Veteran George and his daring Arctic dash

IT was a daring dash on a motorbike across the freezing Arctic tundra with the Nazis in hot pursuit.

George Pratt was part of a crack team tasked with building landing strips in the north of Norway during the Second World War.

But left vulnerable to attack due to having no air defence, they were chased out by the Germans.

However, George returned to see if all was OK on his old BSA single-cylinder m20 496cc motorbike – and says he ended up breaking the land speed record in the Arctic Circle.

Last weekend, George marked his 100th birthday with a special party at his home in Rugeley.

Recalling his time serving in Norway, he said: "We were bombed day and night because it never got dark."

Frozen

"They aimed at this strip we were trying to clear of ice and so we all got chased out. I went back to headquarters on the bike to make sure that it was all OK. I held the land speed record in the Arctic Circle at 59 miles per hour on my old BSA single-cylinder m20 496cc in retreat (from the Germans)."

George, a grandfather, joined the Army in 1940 in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and became a dispatch rider. He served in the British Expeditionary Force where he was first posted in France.

But he soon found himself in the frozen depths of the Arctic Circle in a daring operation for which he later received an award for his bravery.

After the operation George was posted to England in September 1940 as part of the Battle of Britain, where he was based at airfields in Kent.

Two years later he was posted out to Kankinara in India. There he was tasked with converting a factory into



Veteran George Pratt with Tina Speakman, from Help a Squaddie



George celebrates his 100th in style



George, standing second from right, during his Second World War service



George on his bike in 1940

a production company for the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

During this stint he achieved the rank of Warrant Officer Class One.

His service also saw him awarded with the Burma Star and the Arctic Star. George served up until the end of the war and left the British Army.

Birmingham-born George has three children and three grandchildren. His wife Ethel, who he married in February 1946, died in 1983.

His birthday party was organised by Help a Squaddie which has helped George through its weekly breakfast club for veterans. Help a Squaddie

volunteer Kerry Urquhart said: "I met his carer at one of our events."

"She said he hadn't been out of the house for years. I said bring him to our breakfast club and he has been coming ever since."

The charity raised £400 to throw the birthday party.

Appeal to help clear rubbish at nature sites

STAFFORDSHIRE'S largest nature conservation charity is inviting people to make a difference to their environment by helping them spruce up a number of nature reserves.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust wants to work with local people and groups to clear litter, especially at Croxall Lakes, George's Hayes, Brankley Pastures, Gentleshaw Common, Hem Heath and Highgate Common.

The charity is keen to hear from people who are regular visitors to the reserves to help keep on top of the litter.

The trust will provide people who wish to help with litter pickers and bin bags.

Jeff Sim, a land management team co-ordinator at the trust, said: "We clear up as much litter as we can on our reserves, but as a conservation charity we are limited by the amount of time we have, so we're asking people, local groups and communities to give us a hand in keeping our nature reserves beautiful litter-free places to visit."

"We would always urge people to either dispose of their litter where bins are provided, or take it home with them, but sometimes, frustratingly, that doesn't always happen."

"Volunteers will be provided with the necessary equipment to carry out the litter picks."

Anyone who may be able to help should email info@staffs-wildlife.org.uk

Storming response to writing contest

A SCHOOL in Hednesford has held a creative writing competition.

Staffordshire University Academy gave students the title 'The Storm' and the task of writing either a narrative or descriptive piece based on the image provided.

The winners were announced on the last day of the February half-term.

Eboni Neville came third, Jacob Rollins was in second place and Sophie Garner first.

Jill Overbury, from the school, said: "It was a tough decision but Sophie's narrative stole the top spot for its originality, excellent use of vocabulary, structure and overall effect."

"It was a fantastic occasion and great to see so much writing talent at the academy."

Easter Trail is off

THE Easter Trail which was to have taken place this weekend at St Michael's Church in Brereton has been cancelled, organisers say. The event, designed to mark the start of Holy Week, was to have been held at the church in Main Road on Saturday, March 24.

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Barclays: This branch will close on June 8

A BRANCH of Barclays Bank has confirmed that it is to close on June 8 after customer numbers dropped below 200.

Bosses say the branch in Chase Terrace has suffered from 'a low and falling level of transactions', and is now used by just 170 customers.

Barclays director Jason Clark said: "Our records show a low and falling level of transactions at the branch, and additionally, 76 per cent of our branch customers are also using other ways to do their banking such as on-line and by telephone. We have also identified we have only 170 customers who solely use the branch to undertake their banking and 54 per cent have used neighbouring branches in the last twelve months.

"Having taken into account how customers are now choosing to bank with us and the alternatives available, the decision to close the branch on June 8 will remain." Barclays has advised customers to use the nearby post office branch on Cannock Road.

Michael Fabricant, the Tory MP for Lichfield, said: "I know that customers will be disappointed with this response, but we have to recognise that internet and telephone banking is changing the way people interact with their banks.

"I am glad that the post office which is very close to the Barclays branch will take up most of the slack."

Vehicles targeted on the same day

A SPATE of vehicle crime hit four streets in the same area on the same day.

Thieves caused substantial damage to a van in Anson Road, Great Wyrley, at 7.20am on March 13 when they attempted to break in but failed.

At Tower View Road at 7.35am, the locks on a second van were damaged but nothing was taken.

Thirty minutes later, tools and a small amount of change were stolen from a van in Holly Lane.

Finally, a blue Nissan Juke was scratched at 10.10am in Johns Lane.

Mark Griffiths, senior officer assistant at Staffordshire Police, said: "If anyone has any information or CCTV they are asked to call 101 quoting incident number 93."

History group talk

CHESLYN Hay & District Local History Society will welcome Cas Bailey who will give a talk on Thursday, March 29, at 7.30pm, titled 'If you can't stand the heat get out of the kitchen' at the Salem, in Cheslyn Hay.

Horror film made for £4,000 wins award



Troy Dennison from Cannock

A HORROR movie filmed in and around Staffordshire and the Black Country has won a top award.

The House of Screaming Death, starring Ian McNeice, who has appeared in the likes of Doctor Who and Game of Thrones, won Best Feature Film at the 2018 Midlands Movies Awards.

Director Dave Hastings, who is a film lecturer at Walsall College, said he was delighted the film had been recognised.

Other directors are Troy Dennison, from Cannock, teacher Bekki Har-

ris-Smith, from Walsall, and make-up artist Alex Bourne, from West Bromwich.

Shot on a budget of £4,000 the film involved around 100 people - including cast and crew - all of whom provided their services free of charge. It was filmed at West Bromwich's Manor House Museum as well as sites in Walsall and Staffordshire.

The plot is based on McNeice's character, The Architect, who tells the audience four short stories, each set in different time periods and each exploring a different part of the su-

pernatural world from ghosts to vampires.

Dave Hastings said: "I think, more than anything, myself and co-producer Kaushy Patel are just overwhelmed, especially because it has recognised such an amazing cast and crew who worked on the film.

"There is no way this film would exist without each and every one of them who helped bring the final picture to life, whether they were behind the camera or in front of it."

The House of Screaming Death was one of 85 films entered for the awards.

Campaigners in new battle to save library

CAMPAIGNERS have hit out at proposals to downgrade a library and bring in volunteers to help run the 'vital' service.

Staffordshire County Council is drawing up plans to make Penkridge Library community-managed, claiming the Grade II listed building is one of the least used services in the county.

But the Friends of Penkridge Library group is fighting to help save the library in the market town and says the move would mean the 'burden' of running it would be left in the hands of volunteers.

The group has been rallying the support of people in Penkridge to attend a public meeting today (Thursday) in order to put forward their thoughts as part of a consultation.

It has also enlisted the support of Stafford MP Jeremy Lefroy, who has expressed his concern over the proposals to downgrade the service.

Connected

This is the second fight to save Penkridge Library, after thousands backed a petition forcing Staffordshire County Council to reconsider its plans back in 2014.

The council is currently running a 12-week consultation until April 1 and is urging people connected to the library to have their say.

Changes would also affect libraries in Burntwood, Cannock, Codsall, Eccleshall, Lichfield, Penkridge, Perton, Rugeley, Stafford, Stone and Wombourne.

So far, 1,300 people in Staffordshire have responded to the consultation and more are being urged to come forward at the Friends of Penkridge Library's public meeting at the Haling Dene Centre today from 7pm.

Councillor Gill Heath, Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for communities, said the council will work with the group to 'find a sustainable way forward'.

People can leave their comments at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/connectedlibraries or fill in a questionnaire at any library, or email connectedlibraries@staffordshire.gov.uk



Graeme Brookes in rehearsals at the Swan Theatre in Stratford upon Avon where is making his debut with the Royal Shakespeare Company

Graeme on marks for huge challenge

MAKING a debut with the Royal Shakespeare Company - appearing in two separate plays - is challenging enough.

But Burntwood actor Graeme Brookes isn't only working long hours on the boards in Stratford upon Avon, he is also training for his first London Marathon.

And he is busy writing two popular blogs about both.

Brookes is appearing in both The Duchess of Malfi and The Fantastic Follies of Mrs Rich at the Swan Theatre.

He said: "Performing at Stratford with the RSC is all I have ever wanted to do since a school trip when I was 17 to see The Merchant of Venice. It's taken me 13 years to get here."

Meanwhile, he is running the marathon in aid of The National Deaf Children's Society - both of his paternal grandparents were deaf.

To support Graeme visit uk.virginmoneygiving.com/

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cash and chickens taken in water con

CASH and chickens were stolen by three men claiming to be from the 'water board' who called at the home of a 'vulnerable' elderly couple in Great Wyrley.

The men told the homeowners that they needed help with their water at 2.30pm on Tuesday last week.

While one was in conversation with one of the couple, two men are believed to have entered the property and stolen cash, a handbag and two blue-crested chickens.

All three men are described as white and wearing hi-vis jackets and wellington boots.

Call 101 with any information.

Bus service saved despite cutbacks

A POPULAR bus service will be saved after others were cut due to Staffordshire County Council axing funding.

The 71 service from Cannock to Wolverhampton currently run by Arriva will be saved after Select Bus Services stepped in to take it over.

The new hourly Monday to Saturday service between Cannock, Longford, Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Wednesfield and Wolverhampton will be introduced on April 3.

It follows a consultation that led to four per cent of journeys being cut from April as a way to save money.

Getting a-head with Wool @ J13

ARTISTS and crafters are gearing up for a two-day festival of wool.

The 2018 Wool @ J13 festival is at Lower Drayton Farm, near Penkridge, on May 12 and 13, and organisers are calling on artists who create headwear out of wool to submit their work as part of a new exhibition.

Co-organiser Ingrid Wagner, a wool artist based in Staffordshire, is on a mission to gather at least 100 hats for the 'Get Ahead, Get a Hat' showcase in aid of Brain Tumour Research.

To find out more about the Wool @ J13 festival, visit <http://wool-j3.uk>

Choir concert will help pay for church repairs

A CONCERT is being held to raise funds to help repair a church roof.

Proceeds from A Summer's Evening Choral Concert with Cannock Chase Ex-Servicemen's Choir will be used for repairs at the Church of Saint Saviour in Hatherton.

It will be held at 7.30pm on May 18 at the church in Church Lane.

Tickets are £5 including a light refreshment and can be bought by calling 01543 469922.

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COUNTY NEWS

Action call as pet thefts 'rise 24pc'

PET theft is on the rise with more than 60 dogs stolen in England and Wales every week. But, officials with DogLost, which helps reunite owners and pets, claim these numbers are only the tip of the iceberg.

They have said that as the law stands there is no deterrent to reduce pet theft which is up by nearly 24 per cent over the past three years.

Pet Theft Awareness, a of the Stolen & Missing Pets Alliance, is backing an e-petition created by Dr Daniel Allen, a research fellow in Human Geography and tutor at Keele University. People are urged to sign at petition.parliament.uk/petitions/212174.

Suzi's Tomfoolery over cat's gender

BLACK Country TV favourite Suzi Perry rescued a stray kitten and named it Gloria – only to find her new furry friend was a male. Wolves fan Suzi tweeted the clanger to her 365,000 followers, prompting scores of replies.

The presenter posted: "Rescued a stray wild kitten, fed her and called her Gloria. Managed to catch her to take her to the vets to be sterilised. Apparently Gloria is a boy - no coming back from the name Gloria is there?!"

Teased about her inability to tell the difference between a male and female cat, Suzi replied: "Wild cat, long hair – untouchable!"

Black Books star Dylan's Brum date

DYLAN Moran will perform is returning to Birmingham on a new tour.

The Black Books comedy icon will come to the region on his Dr Cosmos tour, heading to 41 UK venues.

Dylan is set to offer his unique take on love, politics, misery and the everyday absurdities of life at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on September 22. The comedian, actor and writer became the youngest ever winner of the Perrier Award at the Edinburgh Fringe in 1996.

Camera club hopes to snap up new members

A PHOTOGRAPHIC group is looking for new members. North Birmingham Photographic Society meets every Wednesday at Great Barr War Memorial Hall in Chapel Lane, from 7.45pm.

Professional photographer Dave Tucker will be giving a talk on March 21, followed by a lecture on Iceland by fellow photographer Peter Clark.

For further information about the club call 07729 033981.

Calls to use HS2 cash for pothole repairs

SOME of the £42 billion earmarked for HS2 should be spent on fixing potholes in roads to prevent cycling deaths, it is claimed.

A total of 45 miles through Staffordshire will be affected by the high-speed rail link, bisecting the county from Lichfield to Swynnerton while skirting Stafford, Stone and villages along the route. London MP Catherine West has accused the Govern-

ment of being blinkered – prioritising HS2 while starving local councils of cash to repair busy road routes.

The number of cyclists killed or seriously injured because of badly maintained roads has more than trebled since 2007. In 2007, there were two fatalities and 15 serious injuries where the state of the road was a 'contributory factor' compared with four fatalities and 60 serious injuries in

2016, according to figures obtained by Ms West, Labour MP for Hornsey and Wood Green.

But campaign group Cycling UK says the statistics cover incidents only where police attended the scene and that not all cyclists report injuries to the police.

"Cycling UK is incredibly concerned to see what is clearly a trend on the up showing more people being

killed or seriously injured while cycling, all because our roads are in a shocking state," said campaigns director Simon Jones.

It says that the Government should not spend any money on new motorways or trunk roads until it has fixed existing roads.

Ms West said: "Just one per cent in savings from HS2, which has quite a big budget, would make a difference."

Carpetright shares fall in light of rescue plan

SHARES in Carpetright have plunged on reports the struggling retailer may close stores and axe jobs as it pieces together a rescue plan.

The company has 409 UK stores including branches in Dudley, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Kidderminster, Oldbury, Oswestry, Shrewsbury and Telford, Stafford and two in Cannock.

It is understood the group could go down the route of a company voluntary arrangement (CVA), which would allow it to shut loss-making stores and secure deep discounts on rental costs.

Carpetright said it was exploring 'a range of options' to reboot the business and that a final decision had not been made.

The prospect of a CVA – first reported at the weekend – sent shares tumbling more than 14 per cent in trading on the London Stock Exchange on Monday.

Such a move would see Carpetright join the likes of fashion retailer New Look and restaurant chains Byron, Prezzo and Jamie's Italian, which have all embarked on CVAs since the start of the year.

It would also heap further misery on Britain's battered retail sector following the collapse of Toys R Us and Maplin, which has affected 5,000 jobs.

Carpetright revealed earlier this month that it was set to swing to a full-year loss and had started talks with its lenders to ensure it does not breach the terms of its bank loans.

It was also confronted by a share price crash in January when it warned over profits and said like-for-like UK sales had fallen 3.6 per cent during the crucial Christmas trading period.

Legal adviser is on the top 50 list

ONE of the country's top legal business advisers about fire safety has been named as coming from the Midlands.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service's business support lead John Berisford was selected from hundreds of entries to be named on the top 50 list and the top spot in the legal category in Enterprise Nation's competition.

The announcement of his achievement was made at a ceremony in London where he was presented with a certificate.

John said: "I'm delighted. To have been featured on the top 50 list of recognised business support leaders was already such an honour and this now is such a huge achievement.

"This is a very proud moment for me and the service."

Mini Beast freezes out the fun all over again

By Marion Brennan

SHOWS were cancelled, visitor centres closed and transport disrupted as more snow put a stop to a string of weekend events in Staffordshire and the Black Country.

Most people were taken by surprise by the force of the latest wintry snap – dubbed the Mini Beast From The East – which covered the region under several inches of snow.

Motorists were warned to make only essential journeys while public transport timetables were thrown into disarray. Gritters were out across Staffordshire during the weekend, and salt lorries serviced roads throughout the Black Country.

Snow ploughs kept Birmingham Airport running overnight, although flights were suspended for a time when snow became heavier and the runway had to be cleared again.

Decision

Among the early casualties of the weather was Sunday's Stafford Half Marathon. The event has been rescheduled for April 15.

Alton Towers, too, took the decision on Friday not to operate any of its rollercoasters across the weekend, although the rest of the site was open.

The Black Country Living Museum in Dudley tweeted a picture of its snow-lined streets with the message that the venue would be unable to open. Next door, Dudley Zoo also remained shut.

The Robin 2 took the decision to cancel a Breast Cancer Now show which has been rescheduled for May 13.

● Burntwood Town Council is being urged to take action on the refilling of grit bins following therecent periods of bad weather. Labour members made the call as they say Staffordshire County Council 'seemed unable to refill the bins in a timely way'.

Peter turns bright idea into a book



Peter Kelsall, from Cannock, with part of his collection of ancient lamps and his new book

A COLLECTOR of ancient pottery oil lamps has published a book to share his passion and research.

Peter Kelsall, from Cannock, purchased his first lamp following a trip to Athens in 1988 and now has 131 dating from 2500BC to 1200AD.

For 20 years the 55-year-old has been working 'on and off' on Lighting the Ancient World. "I believe it's the first book of its type on this subject as there is only really museum catalogues, and that depends on what the museum has in its collection," he said.

"The book looks at the development, manufacture, art and uses of the pottery oil lamp," said Mr Kelsall, who

has been interested in ancient history since studying the subject at A-level. It has been a labour of love for the history enthusiast who said new pieces of research and acquisitions slowed down the progress of the book, which includes illustrations and colour photographs

"As soon as I thought I had finished, I would find some new facts. I wanted it to be as informative as possible. I've tried to make it readable so it's not a dry, dusty text. I'm very pleased with it," he added.

Mr Kelsall hopes the book will prove popular with collectors and academics. Lighting the Ancient World is available from Amazon and www.luxlucerna.com

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Hundreds are caught with knives in one year

MORE than 1,600 people were cautioned or sentenced for carrying knives and offensive weapons in Staffordshire and the West Midlands in one year.

Police say most of the people caught last year were males aged between 15 and 19 who claimed they were carrying the weapons for protection. The number of people penalised for possession peaked over the two regions last year, with a total of 1,673 offenders, according to the Home Office.

It was the highest in the last eight years. The level dropped to 1,184 in 2014 but has since steadily risen.

It brings into question the success of recent government legislation, which sees people given a mandatory prison sentence when caught possessing a knife for a second time. The Chronicle's sister paper, the Express & Star, is campaigning for offenders not to be given a second chance.

A Staffordshire Police spokesman said: "Unfortunately the increase in knife crimes is a national trend, not just a Staffordshire trend."

"We are working with partners like schools, councils and Trading Standards to educate young people on the dangers and consequences of carrying knives. In time, as our collective effort continues, we are optimistic that we could see a positive change in these figures and hopefully reduce the numbers of offences and victims."

Curtain goes up on music spectacular

THEATREGOERS can catch an exciting new music show in Cannock before it heads to the West End.

Ahead of its debut on the London stage, Lipstick on Your Collar hits the Prince of Wales Centre – and tickets are already selling fast.

The spectacular show features an array of classic hits from the likes of Connie Francis, Buddy Holly, Brenda Lee, Jerry Lee Lewis, The Beatles, The Ronettes, Cliff Richard, Cilla Black and Sandie Shaw

Singer Nicola Seeking-Smith said: "We're really excited to be bringing Lipstick on Your Collar to Cannock."

The show is on May 4, from 7.30pm, with tickets at £21 via boxoffice.wlct.org or from the box office on 01543 578762.

Easter reflections

EASTER Reflections is performed at St Stephen's Church, Bideford Way, Cannock, next week. It will feature music by the church choir and congregation, as well as appropriate readings and starts at 7.30pm on Monday.

Royalty at biggest Shire Horse show



The Countess of Wessex at the show

ROYALTY graced the showground for the first day of the world's largest gathering of Shire Horses.

The Countess of Wessex was at Staffordshire County Showground for the Shire Horse National Show to celebrate the 140th anniversary of show organiser, the Shire Horse Society.

During her visit in her role as patron of the Association of Show and Agricultural Organisations, she had a tour around Bingley Hall and presented the cup to the winner of the Newcomers Handlers Class, Emma Beswick, from Leek. Victoria Clayton,

secretary of the Shire Horse Society, said: "We were absolutely thrilled to welcome Her Royal Highness, The Countess of Wessex, to the first day of our three-day show at Staffordshire Showground, as part of the 140th birthday celebrations of the Shire Horse Society."

Protecting

"The Countess spoke to Shire Horse owners and show competitors, trade stand holders, and was introduced to Shire Horse Cotebrook Loch Anna, a two-time national champion

who has been the model for a special vase that has been made by Moorcroft to mark our birthday.

"The Countess was very interested to hear about the work of the Shire Horse Society and our role in protecting and preserving the gentle giants of the horse world."

The society is the only charity devoted to the protection, preservation and promotion of the British breed of horses.

The Countess of Wessex, Sophie, wife of Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, was there in her role as patron.

Families fear a 'done deal' on housing bid

CONCERNED residents fear plans to build 1,000 homes on green belt land is a 'done deal', despite no formal application being made.

Proposals have been drawn up for the development on fields south of Littleworth Road in Cannock.

A public meeting was held by Green Party activists which was attended by concerned residents and special guest Baroness Jones of Moulsecomb. Despite no planning application made, land owner Church Commissioners for England have submitted a visual document outlining the proposals.

Residents raised a variety of concerns at the meeting chaired by Lady Jones at Gentleshaw Village Hall on Saturday. Green Party activist Richard Jenking said: "The question is a personal one. As I am going around the room some people have said 'It is a done deal. You are wasting your time. They have decided to build on it and they are not going to change their mind'."

"On the other end of the scale, people have said 'It is green belt, don't worry about it. No-one will ever build on it'."

Other concerns centred on how the proposed development would affect the habitat of wildlife including deer, newts and owls.

Another was how local infrastructure would be impacted with hundreds of more people using schools, roads and health services.

Despite Green Party activists holding the meeting, Green councillor Paul Woodhead, for Hedgesford South, said this was not a political issue.

Speaking at the event, he said: "At this stage for me, this is about engagement and understanding what the community wants to happen. I have been knocking doors for the past 18 months and people have been talking about this."

The proposed area of green belt is called Bleak House and is located between Wimblebury Road and John Street.

Easel-y does it as art on show



Artist Liz Gill, who is showing off her paintings, with her father Frank

A KEEN artist who battles depression with a paint brush and a brightly coloured palette has her work on display for charity.

Liz Gill, aged 37, from Cannock, suffers from anxiety and depression but found art and nature to be therapeutic and is using her talent to raise money for Staffordshire Wildlife Trust by having her

work on display. The graphic designer has always had a flair for art and her creative parents have encouraged her to pursue her talents.

Her mother, Janet, who died from cancer two years ago, encouraged her to draw while her father, Frank, age 68, a photographer, has always supported her.

Twenty per cent of proceeds from paintings sold will go to the trust because The Wolseley Centre was one of her mother's favourite places.

Artwork is on show until the end of March at Cannock Library, Manor Avenue, from 9am-5pm on weekdays, until 7pm on Tuesday and until 4pm on Saturdays.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Plea after sheep attacked by dogs

A SHEEP had its ears ripped off in a vicious dog attack in Rugeley.

The incident happened in a field off Martin Lane.

PCSO Tracy Horton said: "This field has a public footpath running through it which is used by dog walkers – you and your dog need to stay on the footpath. Do not allow your dog to run freely around fields. A farmer may shoot a dog which is attacking or chasing farm animals, without being liable to compensate the dog's owner."

Staffordshire Police are appealing for witnesses and anyone with information is asked to call them on 101 quoting incident 0441 of March 13.

Dozens of traders at holiday event

PENKRIDGE Market will be holding a bank holiday market and car boot sale on Monday, April 2.

Running from 9am to 3pm, the day will see about 100 stallholders selling everything from bread, olives and pickles, to plants, handbags and hardware. There is also an indoor market, as well as a bouncy castle.

Anyone wanting to take part in the car boot sale should turn up on the day from 6am. The fee is £8 per car.

For further information call 01785 714221 or log on to the website at www.penkridgemarket.co.uk

Making a splash at Shugborough

NEW canoeing and kayaking activities for all are being offered this year at Shugborough.

The first opportunity for enthusiasts to paddle along the River Sow to get a different view of the mansion and the gardens is on Saturday, April 7 between 10.30am and 3.30pm.

The activity is suitable for children from the age of eight and all equipment is provided. Places need to be booked in advance on 0300 111 8030 or at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events/580b6e77-38f5-4790-9acd-b0d4a4b9316a/pages/details

Egg decorating in Easter workshops

CANALSIDE Farm, in Great Haywood, will be holding a series of Easter workshops during the school holidays.

The workshops on April 3, 5 and 10 at 3.30pm will range from cup cake decorating to craft activities such as decorating eggs. Tickets start from £6 per child depending on the activity.

There will also be an Easter colouring competition, which will run throughout the school holidays. Book online at www.canalsidefarm.co.uk

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Badger cull issue is not all black and white

UNSURPRISINGLY, public opinion is divided over plans to extend the badger cull to include Staffordshire.

On the one hand, the animal rights activists say that the mass killing of wildlife is barbaric and unscientific. On the other are the farmers, who say that thousands more cattle will have to be slaughtered unless something is done about bovine TB which is being spread by badgers.

Experience tells me it's wise to sit on the fence with this one. That's the trouble with badgers. It's never a black and white issue.

...

LET'S get this right. West Midlands Police no longer has police stations in Walsall and Dudley, two of the biggest towns in the force area. It is also planning to shut down a further 24 stations, which will leave many of our suburban and village communities without a base, saving the force an estimated £5 million a year.

Police and crime commissioner David Jamieson says the cuts are necessary to protect the number of officers as the force faces a squeeze on finances.

"It's important to remember policing is about people not buildings," he says.

I was almost convinced. But then we get the bombshell that they are planning to spend £56 million on refurbishing the police stations in Wolverhampton and West Bromwich, as well as completely redeveloping the one at Brierley Hill.

I'm sure these new-look police stations will be very nice, but I can't help but think that anybody who gets beaten up, mugged or stabbed in the centre of Walsall or Dudley would prefer a police station within walking distance. Even if it hasn't had a refurb.

...

WHAT is it with kids today? According to a survey, they are turning their back on alcohol and bingeing instead on coffee.

One in five millennials describes themselves as teetotal, and those that do drink average just two-and-a-half pints a week. Which explains why there were 6,000 pub closures between 2011 and 2016, and 2,000 new coffee shops opening over the same time. I suppose that is a good thing, but I do wonder about this generation.

They wander around, headphones in the ears, oblivious to what is going on around them; bottle of water in the one and mobile phone in the other. And their idea of a good time involves sitting in Starbucks quaffing bucket-sized mugs of extra-strong coffee, often glued to their computer screens. Probably posting stuff on Twitter about Brexit or something.

Their parents must be tearing their hair out, hoping they will grow out of it.

As the new 'Millionaire' host Clarkson gets some tips



Stephen Hawking – admired, cherished and respected by so many millions



Jeremy Clarkson – back on TV after altercation ended his BBC career



Vince Cable – says many older folk who opted for Brexit, "driven by nostalgia"

Best advice Jeremy: Watch what you say

AS part of his readmission to terrestrial television and civilised society, Jeremy Clarkson is to be the new host of Who Wants to be a Millionaire (ITV). In view of the unpleasant altercation with a producer which ended his BBC career, the great and good have been queueing up to offer the former Top Gear presenter advice. If Clarkson can avoid shouting "You lazy Irish ----!" at Celtic colleagues and punching them in the mouth, that'll help.

SO farewell, Stephen Hawking. Never in the field of modern science has one man been so admired, cherished and respected by so many millions of people who hadn't a clue what he was on about.

I AM taken to task for suggesting that in Black Country dialect, Barclays Bank might be pronounced "bonk." A reader insists that while "bonk" would be used to describe a hill or steep rise, a high-street bank is "bank." To make things entirely clear, he adds that "bankers" is pronounced as "them robbodggin' piggantin' wammels." I am much obliged.

VINCE Cable says many older folk who opted for Brexit, "were driven by a nostalgia for a world where passports were blue, faces were white and the world was coloured imperial pink." Really? And how many older citizens has the Lib-Dem leader interviewed to arrive at this curious conclusion? Might it not be that older voters remember voting for a free-trade area of six nations, ended up in a superstate of 27 countries and decided this was no place for the UK to be? To lump all Brexit voters into the white-face, pink-map brigade is as foolish as suggesting that young people voted Remain because they're all a bunch of wimps, frit to

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



death of change and terrified by a challenge. Clearly, a ludicrous notion.

I REFERRED recently to the strange names used in television crime dramas. (Cormoran Strike, Kip Glaspie, etc) Walking past a canal I noticed the site where chemical toilets are discharged. What a great name for a detective it would make. Introducing Elsan Point.

THIS eternally slow spring reminds me of a conversation with an old chap on the harbour wall at Axmouth some years ago when the rain was hammering down from a leaden March sky rather like this week's. "Summer must come," he intoned with a wise smile. That year, it didn't.

AFTER campaigns, such as March4Women, NotMyJob and International Women's Day, I am made shamefully aware how many women seem to be desperately unhappy about the unfairness of being female and, presumably, think being a bloke is much easier. I am therefore delighted to announce the Tofad Programme. It is inspired by the "empathy bellies" worn by some caring, considerate men who want to know how it feels to be pregnant, and hobble around wearing a padded suit with a weighted, swollen abdomen. Under the Tofad Programme, women can become a man for 24 hours. Firstly, they will be surgically equipped with a fully functioning male thingy. Next, they will get a large injection of testosterone which will not only make the thingy work, but also make them fantasise about sex

20 times a day which is apparently the average for a young male (in later life one's thoughts turn to flatpack). And then, perked up by the male hormone and equipped with this curious appendage which cannot decide whether it's a battering ram or the last turkey in the shop, they will be released into society.

I BELIEVE women would come away from the Tofad (Todger For A Day) experience with a much better understanding of the male of the species. They might come to see men not as rampaging beasts but as models of restraint. On the other hand, they may thoroughly enjoy the experience and refuse to hand back the equipment. The NHS has the devil of a job getting old crutches back, so you can imagine the problem.

WAS anyone else of a certain age surprised by the oft-repeated safety warnings from the gunpowder makers in Lucy Worsley's Fireworks for a Tudor Queen (BBC4)? When I was a lad, you could buy a chemistry set at your local toy shop which not only contained the ingredients for gunpowder but also the instructions on how to blend it. While the Beeb's experts mixed gunpowder cautiously with a non-metallic stirrer, we merrily whisked ours up with a teaspoon. It really is amazing that so many men now drawing a pension have a full complement of fingers and toes.

STILL on weapons of mass destruction, how strange it is that the NHS, which is constantly wagging its finger and warning us of the long-term dangers of booze and baccy, waited a week before suggesting it might be an idea for people close to the Salisbury nerve-agent attack to wash their clothes.

TALKING POINT



Blink and all our city shops will be gone . . .

Years ago when my daughter was small I would make a lot of her clothes. I always found sewing quite relaxing.

Nothing complicated, just simple little dresses in fun material. She loved them. But I remember when her age suddenly – it seemed that way to me as her mother – went into double figures she asked that instead of home-made could she shop with her friends and go to the 'teenage clothes shops'. This was not so much to buy, but more to check out the latest fashions and have a giggle with her friends. That was when 'going into town' was a fun day out.

How things have changed over the years and sadly now quicker than ever. So many stores seem to be struggling and numerous branches closing down. For years we have worried about empty shops in Wolverhampton but if the big chains like New Look and Debenhams, are struggling what hope is there for the small independent shops?

I know internet shopping has taken over our lives, why not buy sitting at home on the settee with your tablet on your knee? But surely this takes the fun out of looking for and trying on garments.

Go into many town or city centres today and the number of people shopping is low, although there always seems to be plenty feeding their faces in the seemingly endless number of food outlets.

With grandchildren now I looked around for a shop to buy some material for a fancy dress costume. Where have all the shops gone that sell this sort of thing?

Yes Wolverhampton market on a Tuesday has always been great for material but a long trek in a lunch hour. Hopefully when it moves closer to the city centre that will help. The same with food shopping. There are no large food stores in the Mander Centre where you can pick up a shop. Iceland stepped into the breach after Tesco closed and now stocks a wider range admittedly but apart from that, one has to use the bus or car to travel out of the city.

All the major stores now seem to be based on retail parks, very useful as parking is easy. And maybe that is a big part of the problem. I work in the city centre but if not would I actually drive into Wolverhampton and find somewhere to park to do my shopping when many of the things I am looking for are no longer there? I don't think so.

And if I want a coffee – they are expensive – sorry to be mean but I would have one at home before I shop. Yes the internet is great but our town and city centres are slowly dying. Blink and they will be gone. Such a shame.

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In good voice for a night of song



The Lichfield Garrick Community Choir performs at the city venue this weekend

A CHOIR is tuning up for an evening of song this weekend. Lichfield Garrick Community Choir performs in the Castle Dyke venue's intimate studio theatre on Saturday.

The 40-strong ensemble, which has grown in strength since its inception in 2016, will be joined by the Lichfield Garrick's recently formed Morning Chorus and a host of special guests, including members of theatre staff who will be showcasing their musical talents. The in-demand

Community Choir have performed in venues across Lichfield over recent months raising money for many charities. Weekly rehearsals are on Thursdays at the theatre. The Morning Chorus, which formed only last month, has 20 members and meets on a Tuesday.

The performance starts at 7.45pm with tickets at £12, or £8.50 for students. Visit lichfieldgarrick.com or call the box office on 01543 412121.

Pupils' ethics challenged

PUPILS took on an ethical challenge, organised by the Co-Op, as part of International Fairtrade Fortnight.

Year Six youngsters from Penkridge Middle School held class activities, led by regional manager James Knight, from the Co-Op.

The children learned about how and why the Co-Op began with the Rochdale Pioneers in Victorian times, about the distribution of wealth around the world and how the Co-Op supports

this. The pupils were introduced to the Co-Op's commitment to ethical trading and many of the Fair trade products available.

Recycling

Paul Mobberley, Year Six teacher at the Marsh Lane school, said: "The talk moved on to the company's policy to reduce waste and the children were asked to guess how much waste was produced."

"With a huge amount of stock in each store everyone thought the

amount would be huge but were amazed to learn that, through a range of recycling initiatives and a policy to never send waste to landfill, the store generates less than one wheelie bin of waste each week.

"Following the activity everyone was given some Fair trade products and began to design posters promoting the Fair trade initiative."

Mr Mobberley added: "The behaviour and enthusiasm of all of the pupils was superb and they all agreed they will take the Fair trade message home to their friends and family."



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Show you care during Earth Hour

ON Saturday, March 24, millions of people worldwide will go 'lights out' on WWF's Earth Hour.

It's a brilliant opportunity to show that you care about the future of our planet.

I am deeply concerned about the threat of climate change. It is the biggest environmental issue the human race has ever faced and puts our planet and everything that depends on it in danger.

But whilst many people feel powerless to act, the opposite is true.

As a WWF supporter, I am urging readers to consider what small changes they could make to their everyday lives.

To find out more, go to www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour
ELLIE GOULDING
 WWF supporter

Small act of kindness brightened our lives

THE week prior to the heavy snow a group of very small children, together with two ladies, visited The Laurels.

They were wandering around, chatting to anyone they met.

They left a small bunch of flowers and a card on one of the benches.

I was fortunate to chat to them, and one of the ladies told me they were teaching the children the meaning of

kindness and asked if I would like to accept the flowers and the card as part of the teaching. I thought how very nice it was, and I would like to share the poem on the card with readers.

I had an extra smile when I left the house today. I thought I'd give it to someone I passed along the way.

But incredibly each time I gave it to someone they'd give it back to me. So

now I have a bunch of smiles what am I to do? I think I'll keep a couple and then give the rest to you.

Many thanks to Mary's Little Buds, Michelle's Little Stars and Mel's Child-minding for brightening up our lives.

Please carry on with the wonderful work you are doing.

H LYONS
 Brereton

Guidelines to improve nutrition

THERE is no one-size-fits-all approach when it comes to making food choices, but it is important that people with diabetes, and those at risk of Type 2, are supported to choose the right foods for them to improve their health and quality of life.

That's why we have issued new Diabetes UK nutrition guidelines for healthcare professionals.

For the first time, the guidelines show how people with Type 2 diabetes might be able to achieve remission.

We hope that the new guidelines will help people enjoy food, while making healthy choices and being more active.

The guidelines are available at www.diabetes.org.uk/nutrition-guidelines

PETER SHORRICK
 Diabetes UK

Bus company should revise its timetables

ON talking to other passengers, it appears to be a regular practice that the Arriva No 70 and 71 buses, if they are running late, do not follow the route round the centre of Wolverhampton to pick up passengers but turn back at the island in Stafford Street and go back out of town, leaving many passengers stranded waiting for buses.

I have also discovered from a friend who works at Stafford Hospital that a similar situation happens there.

It is not the bus drivers' fault if there is heavy traffic and they have to follow the company's instructions, but the company needs to factor these issues in when planning journeys. We are constantly being told to use public transport, which is something we try to do, but if there is no regular access to buses what can we do?

A RICKETTS
 Cheslyn Hay

Wartime stories wanted

I AM looking for stories your readers might have about sustained searches for family members who had been reported missing in action or presumed killed during the First World War. I am working on telling the story of their heartache, hope and anguish. The information will be used in a book to be published in 2019. I can be contacted at 12 Park Avenue, Penistone, S36 6DN or johnbroom@aol.com

JOHN BROOM
 Sheffield

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle,
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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Digging in for garden scheme talk

SI Cannock & District

PRESIDENT Val Jones welcomed members to the final speaker meeting of her year in office.

Graham White talked about the amazing transformation of his large garden plot into a stunning horticultural vision, which won him and wife Judy a highly recommended place in the National Garden Scheme.

The family moved into their home in Uttoxeter 26 years ago and spent the first 17 years creating the garden which is now open to the public each year through the NGS. It was a fascinating and entertaining story which everyone thoroughly enjoyed – and the end result, shown with some super photos, is simply magnificent.

Graham explained that all proceeds from entry to the garden go to NGS – and all of their money is donated each year to 'caring' charities – among them Hospice UK, MS Society and Macmillan Cancer Support. In the nine years they have opened as part of the scheme Graham and Judy have had 6,425 visitors to Woodleighton Grove. Private visits can be booked by phoning them on 01889 563930.

Soroptimist Sue Cartledge gave the vote of thanks, saying she would love similar results in her own newly acquired garden. She presented Graham with a cheque for the National Garden Scheme charities.

See SI Cannock on Facebook or visit www.sigbi.org/cannock-and-district

Sheila signed in as new club chairman



Previous and new chairman Pam Clarke and Sheila Burrows

Cannock Ladies Probus

OUTGOING chairman Pam Clarke hosted the AGM at The Chase Golf and Country Club, Pottal Pool.

She thanked all the officers who had helped ensure she had a successful and enjoyable year of office and was pleased all the officers would be staying on for the following year except attendance secretaries Gill Hackett and Ann Legg, to be replaced by Barbara Matthews and June Fox.

Members had enjoyed a variety of speakers, trips and holidays during the year, and were looking forward to a similarly varied programme planned by the new chairman Sheila Burrows who was welcomed in to office with a change of insignia.

Sheila was looking forward to working with continuing officers Clare Whitehouse as secretary and Jill Gooch as treasurer. Margaret Thompson will be vice-president.

The Annual Dinner is Thursday May 3 and the speaker Lesley Smith, curator at Tutbury Castle.

Speaker steps in at last minute

THE booked speaker for March was ill so Arthur Aston kindly stepped in at short notice with his presentation on 'The Town that Died'.

He described the accident that happened in Halifax, Nova Scotia on December 6, 1917 when war conditions prevailed. A collision occurred in the Bedford Basin in Halifax Harbour between a Norwegian vessel SS Ima and the French freighter SS Mont Blanc which was loaded with munitions.

City of Lichfield Men's Probus Club

The resulting explosion was the largest in history, except for the atomic bombs. About 2,000 people were killed with 9,000 injured.

At the next meeting on April 3, the guest speaker will be Clive Katz to give a presentation on Birmingham's back-to-backs. Meetings are at St Matthew's Sports and Social Club in Burntwood at 2.30pm.

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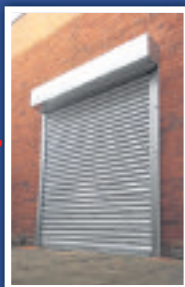
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Drinkers raise a glass to best pubs in district

REAL ale lovers will announce the best pub in the Cannock Chase this week.

Members of the district's branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra), have named their second and third-placed recipients of the annual Pub of the Year competition.

The Rusty Barrel at the Fernwood Centre, Rugeley, took third, behind the Newhall Arms, a micro-pub in high Green, Cannock.

Branch chairman Mac Pearson handed over the awards to Darren Porter of the Rusty Barrel and Matt and Jamie Ward from the Newhall Arms.

He said it was particularly encouraging to see these micro-pubs doing so well, especially when the UK is still seeing around 25 pubs closing every week.

Sourced

"Both pubs have only been opened for little over a year, but are providing drinkers in Cannock and Rugeley with a choice of quality real ales, well kept, and sourced both locally and from around the country," he said.

"They are real gems, not only helping to promote the aims of Camra, but also helping to preserve the truly British culture of pubgoing."

Members voted on ambience, friendliness, decor, and quality of real ales provided.

This week they will name the overall winner. However, Mac added: "When you get to the top three pubs in an area covering Cannock, Hednesford, Rugeley, Burntwood, and Great Wyrley, the difference between third place and first doesn't really matter, they are all simply the best pubs in the district."



Mac Pearson and Darren Porter



Presentation to Matt and Jamie Ward

Funding to support Games

A SPORTS event set to attract more than 5,000 people has been handed funding to the tune of £3,000.

In all, some £6,000 was given to good causes in Staffordshire and Birmingham by Central England Co-op.

Half the windfall was awarded in support of the first ever Lichfield Games which take place in September. More than 5,000 people are expected to take part with local and

national sports clubs running activities for people to try. Central England Co-op will be in attendance to teach people of all ages about the benefits of healthy eating.

James Knight, a member of Western Membership and Community Council and community relations officer, said: "We have been able to give out four different grant awards to a variety of deserving projects."

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Centre reveals its new charity partners



Cannock Shopping Centre manager Susi McCarthy with charity officials
CANNOCK Shopping Centre has announced its charity partners for 2018.

The centre in Cannock, based at Market Place, will be working with St Giles Hospice, The Donna Louise and Leukaemia Care to help both raise money and the charities' profiles.

The charities were chosen after a tender process that took place at the start of the year.

Susi McCarthy, centre manager, said: "We were blown away by the interest in and quality of applicants for our charity tender this year. There are such worthy charities across Cannock and Staffordshire

and it was great to learn more about how they benefit our shoppers and their families.

"This year we increased the number of charity partners from one to three, and whilst it was tough to choose just three partners we are really pleased with the end result and know they will bring engaging events as well as awareness and support to our shoppers."

Philippa Grady, the corporate fundraiser for St Giles Hospice, said: "We are proud to be working with Cannock Shopping Centre and teaming up to raise awareness of the value of hospice care."

Sheila, 93, puts on fair



Sheila Tuckey

A 93-YEAR-OLD church member is heading up a team to organise an Easter fair this weekend.

Sheila Tuckey and her helpers are putting on the event at Chase Terrace Methodist Church in Princess Street on Saturday, March 24, from 11am to 2pm.

Activities will include games, gift stalls, refreshments and an Easter egg hunt at midday. Mrs Tuckey, the church's most senior member, says she still has the energy and commitment to take on this venture and would like to send out a warm welcome across the

town. She said: "I love organising and I love arts and crafts so, bringing these two interests together, I decided to put my time and efforts into this Easter fair."

"I've had a lot of support from family, friends and other church members, and I'm just hoping that a little more spring weather will persuade people to come."

Mrs Tuckey has previously organised other events including a very successful Christmas tree festival two years ago.

She added: "Spring is on the way after a long, cold winter, and I just want to spread a little bit of warmth."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Six-week diversion for M-way traffic

MOTORISTS will be diverted for six weeks when a stretch of motorway on the M54 in Staffordshire is shut overnight from April 3.

The work will see the westbound carriageway from junction two of the M54 near the i54 business estate to junction 10A of the M6 for Essington, closed from 8pm until 6am.

Helpers to clear up canal litter

THE Lichfield branch of the Inland Waterways Association holds its next work party on Tuesday, March 27.

Meet at the canalside in Leathermill Lane, Rugeley, at 9.30am. Volunteers will be picking up litter and clearing vegetation among other tidy-up tasks. Call 07581 794111 or email margaret.beardsmore@waterways.org.uk

Business provides £85,000 for fund

BURNWOOD childcare provider Busy Bees is celebrating a successful year of fundraising across its nurseries for Meningitis Now.

A grand total of £85,622 was raised by Busy Bees' 344 UK nurseries, with children, nursery staff and parents getting involved in lots of fun and exciting activities.

Church coffee morning

A HEATH Hayes church hosts a coffee morning on Saturday. Refreshments including bacon sandwiches will be served at Bourne Methodist Church, in Hednesford Road, from 10am to midday. All are welcome to attend.

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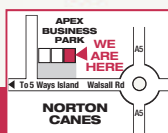
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RSD pressing forward on £750k deals



From left, Daniel Burton of RSD Pressings, and Russell Hartill of Worcester Presses

INVESTMENT in a new state-of-the-art machine from Worcester Presses is helping a Cannock automotive supplier win more than £750,000 of new contracts.

RSD Pressings, based at Gallan Park, off the A5, which supplies components for seats, sub-frames, cross car beams, bumpers and body, has installed a new GTX300 Chin Fong Progression Press.

Nearly £350,000 has been spent on the machine and a

Tomac TLN4 coil line, with more than £100,000 of funding secured from Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Grants 4 Growth and the European Regional Development Fund.

Three new jobs have already been created and a further eight will be recruited over the next 12 months.

"The components we manufacture at our facility in Cannock end up in millions of cars all over the world," said operations director Daniel Burton, operations director.

Cool role for engineer



Coolair's Mark Furlong

A CANNOCK air conditioning installation specialist has appointed a new project and sales engineer.

Mark Furlong, of Birmingham, will take on the role at Coolair Equipment, located in Brookfield Drive.

The former apprentice, who has 15 years' experience in mechanical services, will strengthen the growing Mid-

lands operation of the Manchester-based company. He was previously a freelance project manager involved in the design, procurement and sale of mechanical systems including air conditioning.

Mark gained his HNC in HVAC Building Services Engineering from South Birmingham Centre for the Built Environment in 2008 and his Level 2 NVQ qualification in CAD Design from

Sutton College in 2006. Neil Gibbard, Midland regional director of Coolair Equipment, said: "Mark will help us build on our successful association with major developers, contractors and suppliers."

The Midlands office of Coolair recently secured orders for two retirement villages, a hotel and conference centre, a retail head office refurbishment, and a new vehicle operations centre.

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FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR (FIXED)
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Representative
Finance Example

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	48 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	CASH PRICE	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	FEES	GUARANTEED MINIMUM FUTURE VALUE
£219*	£219	£19,049	£17,630	NIL	£9,595
FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR (FIXED)
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Student nurse praised over actions during fire

A STUDENT nurse has been praised for her efforts to help elderly residents during a fire at a care home.

Kiran Arif, studying nursing practice at Staffordshire University's Blackheath Lane campus in Stafford, was visiting Nethermore Care Home in Rugeley last month when the blaze took hold.

Kiran, who was on a work placement with the Community Intervention Service at Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Partnership NHS Trust (SSOTP), worked alongside Advanced Nurse Practitioner at SSOTP Mark Danesi and care home staff to evacuate the residents before fire crews arrived at the scene.

They then helped to comfort the residents, keeping them warm and providing hot drinks, while the fire was safely extinguished.

Emergency

"We thought it was a test but soon realised that it was a real emergency," said Kiran, aged 21, who lives in Stafford. "I just went into auto-pilot and tried to evacuate the elderly residents from the building as quickly as possible. Many of them have poor mobility so we had to physically help them to get to safety."

Nethermore Care Home took to social media to thank Kiran and Mark afterwards, in a post which said: "They helped support our residents in a time of distress and even helped serve cups of tea and sandwiches after the event while they were asked to stay by the fire crew to be accounted for."



Mark Danesi and Kiran Arif who helped to make the residents safe

The pair's actions were featured in the Cannock Community Intervention Service newsletter and the fire service also praised the care home and staff for their professionalism.

Helen Ashwood, course leader for adult nursing at Staffordshire University, said: "Kiran worked beyond expectations to evacuate residents when the fire broke out. Her quick thinking

and ability to remain calm under pressure are exactly the kind of qualities that make a great nurse and I'm sure has a bright future ahead."

Kiran, who is in the first year of her degree, said: "I'm really enjoying the course so far. Being on placement and experiencing real-life situations like this helps to give us the practical skills that we'll need when we graduate."

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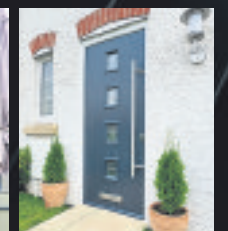
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Legalise cannabis to stop the pain, says MP

MP Michael Fabricant has made a desperate plea for Parliament to legalise cannabis for medicinal purposes.

The Lichfield Conservative, whose constituency includes Burntwood, said: "If a doctor says that cannabis is the only cure or the only way to alleviate pain, surely they should be legally allowed to prescribe that drug?"

Mr Fabricant spoke on behalf of thousands of suffering patients, including Vicky Clarke, from Burntwood, who battles with multiple sclerosis, an illness he says has 'decimated' her family.

Together with her husband Andy, they say cannabis is the only medicine that can ease the acute and stabbing pain caused by MS.

Raising the issue with Home Office Minister Nick Hurd, Mr Fabricant said: "We are not talking about the general administration of cannabis; we are talking about the medical prescription of cannabis."

Mrs Clarke was diagnosed with Primary Progressive MS in her mid-30s, just over a decade ago.

The stabbing pain she experienced in her shoulder forced her to give up her job as a teacher in Walsall. After trying other treatments, cannabis-based butter and marijuana smoothies immediately soothed her pain. But brushes with the law ensued.

Mr Hurd told the House of Commons: "They still have to operate within the law. The law does permit the development, licensing and marketing of medicines, including those containing controlled drugs, such as cannabis. The Home Office and the Government are keeping this area under review."



Vicky Clarke, with husband Andy, says MS has decimated her family

Festival is motoring back

A MOTORING festival returns to Weston Park on Easter Sunday.

Up to 1,000 cars, spanning a century of motoring, are expected to line up at Midlands' Motorfest on April 1, from 10am to 4pm.

More than 35 car clubs will have display stands, including the BMW Car Club, Mercedes-Benz Club, Stag Owners Club and Club Lotus. Local clubs supporting the event include

Cherished Cars of Shropshire, Potteries Vintage Classic Car Club, VW West Mids Meet and the West Midlands Mitsubishi 4x4 club. There will also be live music, an Autojumble and Easter activities for youngsters.

Tickets are £8 for adults, £3 for children between four and 16, and £20 for a family ticket, if booked in advance. Tickets are also available on the gate. Visit classicismotorshows.co.uk

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Man goes to hospital after blaze at home



The damage caused by the fire which started in a bedroom in Chase Walk, Huntington

A MAN was taken to hospital following a serious house fire. Three crews attended the blaze in Chase Walk, Huntington, shortly before 7am on March 14.

Units from Cannock Fire, Penkridge Fire and Stafford Fire found a mattress on fire in a bedroom.

Crews from West Midlands Ambulance Service checked over four people and sent a 27-year-old man to New Cross Hospital with minor burns. Paramedics were also concerned about the man having inhaled some soot.

A West Midlands Ambulance spokesman said: "We were called at 6.56 reporting to a house fire. Two ambulances attended and the first update was that everybody was out."

"Four people were checked over and one 27-year-old man was taken to New Cross Hospital with some minor burns."

Meanwhile firefighters worked to tackle the blaze with two of the property's top windows left blackened by smoke and one of them smashed through.

Movement on homes plan at old school site

PLANS to build homes on a former school site in Rugeley have been resurrected.

The scheme, for 72 homes at the former Pear Tree Community Primary School, failed to come to fruition after consent was granted three years ago.

But an offer has now been made for the site, paving the way for the development to finally go ahead.

The old Pear Tree School buildings were bulldozed some years ago but the site has been left vacant – and become run-down – ever since.

By Richard Guttridge

there will be some movement fairly soon.

"Part of it is county council land and part of it is district council land. It has been derelict for a long time and there has been work done by both councils to try and get it moving."

Pear Tree Community Primary, in Hardie Avenue, merged with Flaxley Primary to form Chase View school in 2004. The old school was demolished and left to become overgrown.

The eastern part of the site, owned by Cannock Chase District Council, is also vacant and comprises of overgrown scrub land.

The homes scheme was approved by councillors in 2015.

Considered

Now the project appears to have moved a step closer with an unnamed developer willing to come on board.

A report on the scheme said an offer from a 'potential purchaser was being considered by Staffordshire County Council'.

Cannock Chase District Council leader George Adamson said he was hopeful the development would finally be able to go ahead.

He said: "I last heard a few weeks ago that there had been an acceptable offer for the site so hopefully

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Bosses see problems at rail station



Amanda Milling and representatives of West Midlands Trains, Staffordshire County Council and Network Rail

COUNCIL and transport bosses were shown the problems facing passengers during a visit to Rugeley Trent Valley railway station.

Representatives from West Midlands Trains, Staffordshire County Council and Network Rail saw first-hand the problems concerning the car park and platforms.

Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, who hosted the visit, said she is keen to see the station have safer access

for vehicles entering and leaving the car park. The issue is compounded by speeding cars on the road, she said.

Ms Milling also wants the northbound platform to have full disabled access instead of via the current footbridge.

"The meeting at Rugeley Trent Valley was an opportunity for me to make the case to West Midlands Trains and Network Rail and I will continue to press for improvements to be made," she said.

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Pupils talk way to win

"BOTH the monarchy in general and King Edward VI in particular won out on Friday night," says Michael Fabricant.

"This year's Michael Fabricant - Arthur Price of England Schools' Speaking Competition which is run on Parliamentary lines in conjunction with the Rotary Club of St Chad and the City of Lichfield was historic in many ways," the Lichfield MP added.

"Firstly it was the 25th anniversary of the competition, and secondly it was the only year where it had to be postponed for two weeks because of the snow - but the schools and I wanted it to go ahead."

The overall winning school team, who argued against the motion 'That this House believes the British Monarchy should be abolished' were from King Edward VI School in Lichfield.

The best speaker of the whole competition, who could have come from any of the schools participating, not just the winning team, was Jessica Sohl also from King Edward who plans to train as a doctor at Imperial

College London. "The other schools taking part, all of whom were superb so it was a difficult call for the judges, were John Taylor High School from Barton under Needwood, Lichfield Cathedral School, Erasmus Darwin Academy from Burntwood, and The Friary School from Lichfield," Mr Fabricant added.

"My thanks go to the brilliant students who participated and the hard working teachers who coached them and encouraged them on the night" adds Michael.

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Fashion show for charity

MEMBERS of Cannock Chase Conservative Association will be fashioning up funds for the Stroke Association next month.

The group is supporting local organisations and charities through fundraising events and has already raised funds for Katharine House Hospice and Snap (Special Needs Adventure Playground).

Its next fundraiser is a fashion show at the Roman Way Hotel, on Watling Street, from 7pm on Wednesday, April 4.

Tickets are £5 with a Prosecco bar as well as tea and coffee available.

Anyone interested in going along to the show should call Adie Fitzgerald on 07919 161336 or Val Jones on 07973 268444 for more information and tickets.

Hate crime on the up in Cannock Chase district

HATE crime has increased by a third in Cannock Chase since last year, shocking new figures show.

Police recorded 123 hate crime incidents in the 12 months until January this year – up by 33 reports on the previous year when there were 90 incidents.

It comes as the figures, revealed in a Cannock Chase Council report, show crime as a whole rose by 14 per cent over the same period.

There were 6,782 incidents of crime in the year up until January – an 815 increase from 5,967 the year previous.

The data was provided to the council by Staffordshire Police. Independent councillor and ex-police officer Maureen Freeman, who represents the Cannock South ward covering the town centre, condemned all forms of



Maureen Freeman – ‘surprised’

hate crime. “I am surprised it’s gone so high,” she said.

“It has been on the increase – I am aware of that. I am surprised it’s gone up across Cannock Chase, it’s not

something usually that the area’s residents would be suffering from.

“I would condemn any hate crime. I don’t think hate crime is welcome anywhere and would condemn it across the country, never mind just in Cannock Chase. It is an awful thing, and I have every sympathy with victims.

“I would hope that the figures do come down and very quickly.

“I’m sure police are doing their best but I would hope it goes down.

“I can’t point my figure at the reason for the rise, it’s just one of these things. There will be spikes in certain areas of crime but I really don’t know the reason.”

Hate crimes are any crimes that are targeted at a victim because of hostility or prejudice towards their disability, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity.

Restaurant impresses judges



Tony Uddin, Anita MacDonald and quizmaster David St John

A CANNOCK restaurant has been highly commended in a competition to find the very best in South Asian dishes across the UK.

Tony Uddin, owner of the Dilshad, in Chads Moor, will travel to the Houses of Parliament to pick up a certificate and embroidered apron to mark being recognised in the annual Tiffin Cup.

Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling entered the Dilshad for the competition following a visit when she was impressed with the culinary excellence and service. MP Keith Vaz, co-chairman of the Tiffin Cup, congratulated Mr Uddin in a letter: “I am sure you will continue to deliver the high standard of food and service.”

Mr Uddin also presented Professor Anita MacDonald from Birmingham Children’s Hospital with a cheque for £727 during its latest monthly quiz night.

The next quiz night is on Monday, March 26. To enter a team call 01543 570264.

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Council cuts its twinning ties with Russian city

STAFFORDSHIRE County Council has severed ties with the Russian city it has been twinned with for nearly two decades.

The authority has built up a close relationship with the city of Ivanovo, 190 miles north-east of Moscow, which has seen dignitaries and youngsters from both regions exchange visits on a regular basis since the late 1990s.

A civic delegation of Russians last visited the county in 2016 but Staffordshire County Council leader Philip Atkins says there are 'no plans for any further exchanges'. Defence Secretary and South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson has urged the authority to cut all ties with Vladimir Putin's regime in the wake of the Russian spy poisoning.

Staffordshire County Council leader Philip Atkins said: "The exchanges developed from a personal contact made after Glasnost with an aim of promoting a better understanding and to help develop their local government, and over several years since then we have made personal friendships and business contacts through them.

"The nature of the relationship has evolved over time. A civic delegation from Ivanovo last visited Staffordshire in 2016 and there are currently no plans for any further exchanges."

Tensions between Britain and Russia have deepened since former spy Sergei Skripal, aged 66, and his daughter Yulia, 33, were targeted in a nerve gas attack in Salisbury earlier this month.

The British Government has blamed the Kremlin for the attack, and expelled Russian diplomats in retaliation. Moscow has denied any involvement.

Mr Williamson, who recently said Russia should 'go away and shut up', said the council was right to cut its ties.

"The attack in Salisbury was a brazen act by Putin and the Kremlin that has shocked the entire nation," he said.

First-hand look at firm's £20m HQ



From left, John Scott, commercial manager at First Choice Group, Councillor Gordon Alcott, Victoria Turnbull, joint managing director of Opus Land, and John Whitehouse, managing director at First Choice

REPRESENTATIVES from Cannock Chase Council and Opus Land were invited to view the new £20 million premises of First Choice Group at King'swood Lakeside in Cannock.

First Choice Group moved to the 100,000 sq ft purpose-built industrial facility in 2017 after outgrowing its previous premises in Hawks Green, Cannock.

The company, which supplies spare parts for the

commercial catering industry, has been based in Cannock for nearly 20 years. In 2016, First Choice teamed up with Opus Land, who obtained planning approval from Cannock Chase Council for a new 100,000 sq ft industrial facility in Cannock.

The building provides the company with a much needed new HQ facility and includes a three-storey office, incorporating kitchens for training purposes.

Bomb threat to schools

EIGHT schools in Staffordshire were sent a bomb threat via email on Monday, in a hoax that saw schools targeted all across the UK.

Police confirmed they were investigating emails sent to a number of schools in the region making bomb threats, which officers believed were 'false and malicious'.

And Staffordshire County Council confirmed eight educational establishments within its boundaries had received one of the threatening messages.

Councillor Philip White said: "We have liaised

with Staffordshire Police's Counter Terrorism Unit and its advice is that the threat is not credible.

"We have made all our schools aware of the existence of this email and of the police's advice.

"As always we urge schools to remain vigilant, but there was no need to alarm pupils in this instance."

More than 400 schools and colleges across the country were targeted, including Walsall College. Staff took the decision to evacuate all 15,000 students and cancel classes for the day.

Police are investigating and added 'there is nothing to suggest there is any credible threat to any of the schools'. Anyone with suspicions should call 101.

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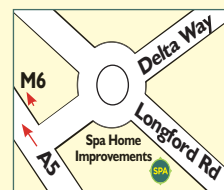


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A Lorain tram is pictured here passing through Chapel Ash



A horse drawn tram in Chapel Ash



A steam-hauled tram on the Dudley route



Newbridge tram set to leave Cleveland Road depot



A trolley bus starts to ascend the Rock

When fare on the No.1 was just two pennies

THE public transport route from Wolverhampton to Tettenhall has always been the city's premier route, almost always bearing the No.1 designation.

When Wolverhampton Tramways was formed in 1876, the first route planned, and opened was from Queen Square to Newbridge, to the boundary with Tettenhall. The route was operated by horse-drawn trams, and the first left on its 12-minute journey at 8am on May 1, 1878. The fare was a princely two pennies.

In an era of steam power it was not surprising that steam drawn trams were tried as a six-month experiment in 1881, but despite widespread support, they were only allowed to continue on the route to Dudley, where

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

the soot and the smoke were more easily accepted, and the horses returned on the route to Tettenhall which was also extended up the Rock.

In 1899 the council took over the tramways and began planning electrification.

Unlike most towns, there was fierce reluctance from the environmentalists to accept the unsightly overhead wires usually adopted, and the Lorain surface contact system was installed.

The first electric trams ran in 1902 to the Industrial Exhibition in West Park but this line was soon extended to Tettenhall.

The system worked well, but a lack of maintenance during the First World War led to its run down, and on the

grounds of cost, the trams were replaced by trolley-buses, and the first of these ran to Tettenhall on November 29, 1927.

The choice was helped by the fact that Wolverhampton boasted two of the biggest trolley bus manufacturers in the World, Guy and Sunbeam.

In 1961 the decision was taken to wind down the trolley bus network, again on the grounds of cost, and they were slowly replaced by motor-buses, which from 1969 were operated by the West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive, and the familiar green and yellow livery was replaced by blue and silver.

Tettenhall also lost its No.1 designation, as the route became the No.501.

Happily this has changed again, though the No.1 route runs all the way from Dudley to Tettenhall, and electricity has also returned to the service as hybrid buses are introduced.

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A show for all the family

STAFFORDSHIRE'S annual County Show will be held on May 30 and 31, organisers have announced.

The programme is packed with attractions for children of all ages – from youngsters who will enjoy the mud kitchen in the Woodfest area to teenagers who will be ringside for the revving engines of the JCB Dancing Diggers.

And the next generation of farmers will be inspired by the first-class entries in livestock competitions across the showground

and enjoy everything at the heart of the traditional agricultural show.

Taking place at the County Showground on Weston Road, it is one of the area's major annual events and is expected to attract more than 65,000 visitors.

Richard Williams, chief executive of the Staffordshire and Birmingham Agricultural Society, said: "It really is a family occasion enjoyed by all. So diaries at the ready – choose your date and be ready when the early bird tickets go on sale on April 1."

Warning over 'call blocking service' fraud

STAFFORDSHIRE Police have issued a warning about criminals pretending to offer a telephone preference service and then stealing money through a direct debit. According to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau, fraudsters are cold-calling victims.

They falsely state they are from a well-known UK telecommunication service providers and can offer a 'telephone preference service' – an enhanced call-barring service that includes blocking international call centres. Their county force says it recorded an increase in such frauds in Staffordshire during February.

The scam involves fraudsters asking victims to confirm or provide their bank account details, informing them that there is a one-off charge for the service that does not exist.

Victims instead see monthly debits deducted from their accounts, which they have not authorised.

The fraudsters often target vulnerable and elderly victims, and this is the case in Staffordshire.

In all instances, direct debits are set up without following the proper procedure.

Refused

The victim is not sent written confirmation of the direct debit instruction, which is supposed to be sent within three days.

On occasions when victims attempted to call back, the phone number provided by the fraudster was either unobtainable or the victim's direct debit cancellation request was refused.

There is only one Telephone Preference Service (TPS).

The TPS is the only official UK 'do-not-call' register for opting out of live tele-sales calls.

It is free to join the register and TPS never charges for registration. Register at www.tpsonline.org.uk

Showroom nod

CANNOCK Chase Council has approved plans for a Go European showroom selling used motorhomes. There will be 50 to 60 vehicles on sale at the site at Lakeside Boulevard, in Cannock. It will bring around 20 new full-time jobs to the area.

Fun and healthy – at the same time



County Councillor Phil Hewitt, Louise Rose, Deb Prew and County Councillor Bryan Jones

TWO 'Grow up Great' events were held for families in Cannock offering fun activities and advice on healthy lifestyles.

The free events were held at the Rainbow Cafe at Chase Baptist Church and Bridgtown Social Club. Activities included arts and crafts, dance, music, cooking and a rhyme time. Cannock Chase Children's Centre, Staffordshire Libraries, Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and the Forestry Commission were all on hand.

The events were held to encourage healthy lifestyles through fun ways and to promote activities that are on the doorstep. At the events, there was also a chance to talk to health professionals and have 'Body MoTs'.

Cannock county councillor Paul Snape said: "These events were a great way for families to have fun."

Fellow county councillors Bryan Jones and Phil Hewitt also went along to support the Bridgtown event.

The event was organised by Early Years Co-ordinator Deb Prew and Louise Rose of Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles.

Briefing on regulation Police in the hunt for 10 firearms officers

MORE than 90 businesses were represented at a breakfast event where bosses were briefed on the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which comes into force in May.

There was also advice on tackling cyber-crime.

The event was co-hosted by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, Spartan Global Services and Chase Chamber of Commerce.

STAFFORDSHIRE Police are recruiting 10 new firearms officers. The Authorised Firearms Officers (AFOs) will help the force 'maintain a consistent and visible policing presence to reassure communities' in the county.

Some of roles that successful applicants could work in include close protection, rifle, dynamic search, national firearms instructor, operational firearms commander and firearms tactical adviser.

Tactical support inspector Chris Dawson said: "You will be expected to manage a varied workload – one day you could be policing cross-border criminality and disrupting organised crime groups, the next you could be visiting schools to talk about policing in the community."

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WOLVERHAMPTON
MAGAZINE

Ex-chief sorry for upset at disbanding regiment

GENERAL Sir Mike Jackson has apologised for the upset caused following the disbandment of the Staffordshire Regiment – but said it was the right move.

The regiment was formed in 1959 and played key roles in the Gulf War and Iraq invasion but in 2004, as part of a restructuring of the Army, a merger was planned with the Cheshire Regiment and Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiments.

The Staffordshire Regiment is now the 3rd Battalion of the Mercian Regiment.

It was under Sir Mike's watch as Chief of the General Staff that the restructuring plan took place, as the Army was asked to reduce its size by 2,000 personnel.

Speaking at Codsall Community High School, Sir Mike said: "I was head of the Army and as a result of the spending review at that time I was directed to reduce the army by 2,000 to 102,000.

Flexibility

"Furthermore, I was directed out of 40 infantry battalions to reduce them by four, which was the catalyst for looking at the way the infantry was structured."

He said the move gave the Army greater flexibility and capability, adding: "Knowing it would not be very unpopular in certain quarters, you take a deep breath and grasp the nettle and put the infantry onto a sounder footing which meant we didn't have to move them so often.

"I didn't regret it. It might have been quite painful here in the West Midlands and I'm sorry if anyone was upset about it but at the end of the day the Army is there to do military things."

The Staffordshire Regiment, which was disbanded in 2007, started life as the 38th Regiment of Foot in Lichfield in 1705, becoming the North and South Staffords, which amalgamated to form The Staffordshire Regiment in 1959.

Carving out a success



These cute wooden sculptures have a unique selling point – they are all carved using a chain saw. Visitor services assistant Chris Jennings shows off a selection of the quirky garden ornaments, made by David Lawrence, which are going down a storm at The Wolseley Centre, near Rugeley, where staff had to re-stock only a week after they went on sale

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Hundreds of youngsters in dance show



Pupils from Bridgtown Primary School perform at the show in Cannock Picture: Epic Action Imagery Ltd

UP to 300 young people took part in a dance event at Cannock's Prince of Wales Theatre.

Pupils from Staffordshire schools and dance academies took part in the Cannock's Gotta Dance event.

Showing off their moves at the show were pupils from Sherbrook Primary, Littleton Green Community School, Pye Green Academy and Cardinal Griffin Catholic College

in Cannock, The John Bamford Primary School and Etching Hill CofE Primary in Rugeley, Erasmus Darwin Academy in Burntwood, and Bridgtown Primary School.

Members of Style Dance Academy and Dappa Dance also took part in the event.

Soloists performing at the show were Sam Hollyman, Karina Edwards and Jasmine Gardner.

Heart screenings to find risks



Neil Bradbury

A SCHOOL will be holding two heart screening days this weekend in honour of Hednesford man Neil Bradbury.

The sessions have been organised by Neil's long-term girlfriend Amy Windle and his family in association with Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY).

Neil, of Littleworth Road, died suddenly of an undiagnosed heart condition on November 15, 2015 at the age of 35.

Amy and his family have raised more than £13,500 for CRY to date, enabling the two heart screening days at King'smead High School to take place on Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 5pm.

The screening days will see 200 local people, between the ages of 14 and 35, tested by CRY staff and cardiologists,

hopefully preventing more untimely deaths like Neil's.

Amy says: "Losing Neil so suddenly was absolutely devastating. I wouldn't wish a similar fate on anyone. This is why, alongside Neil's family and friends, I've been so determined to raise the money for the two screening days in Neil's memory." Call 07711 770472 for full details.



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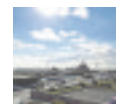
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Playing for laughs as play went right

A brilliantly funny comedy that will have fans aching with laughter will head to the Birmingham Hippodrome from Tuesday to March 31. The Play That Goes Wrong features the Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society who are putting on a 1920s murder mystery.

As the title suggests, everything that can go wrong... does and as the accident prone thespians battle on against all the odds to reach their final curtain call, hilarious results ensue.

Hailed 'a gut-busting hit' by the New York Times, Mischief Theatre's sell-out West End comedy, which is now playing on Broadway, has won a host of celebrity endorsements from the likes of Joanna Lumley who said: "We laughed until the tears ran down our faces, it has to be seen" to Ant & Dec, who said: "The funniest show we've seen! If you can get a ticket, go!"

The show is returning to Birmingham after a sell-out run last year.

Director Mark Bell created the West End productions of the Olivier Award-winning The Play That Goes Wrong, as well as The Comedy About a Bank Robbery. He originally wanted to be an actor but spent a lot of his career training and teaching the art of clowning and is a virtuoso at shaping comedy.

CHOICE

He was immediately drawn to The Play That Goes Wrong. "It needs to make me laugh, or I can see how it would be funny. Sometimes on the page they don't look like that much, but I was at the very first reading of The Play That Goes Wrong and that was obvious - I could see where they were going to take the characters, playing off their idea of the audience - that was an easy choice."

"I honestly don't know, I don't have a method - you just read it a couple of times and see if you can picture how you would do it. I knew straight away the kind of actors I would want and how I would approach it."

Mark puts in hours and hours during rehearsals to make sure his shows are funny.

"You just don't know - sometimes it's the little innocuous things that you've put in to bridge from one moment to the next suddenly start getting a laugh, and you just wonder why."

"Usually the penny drops and you see why. I don't think anybody can really anticipate where the laughs will land, sometimes it's just a simple movement that an actor does that's funny. I would say about 80 per cent of stuff that we put in rehearsal lands and we don't have to change, and there's always a couple of things that you're sad aren't working and you have to change."

He says the most important thing is that people take their characters seriously, even in shows as silly as The Play That Goes Wrong.

"As the actor playing it,

Playing for laughs - The Play That Went Wrong



you can never show the audience that you find it funny. The character on stage has to be laughed at and not with. Sometimes you get characters who enjoy being laughed at and that's fun for them. For actors I say you have to play it truthfully, like you're playing a dramatic part. Treat it like you're doing a Chekhov play. Comedy isn't easier than dramatic acting, it's ten times as hard. You need the same dramatic truth that you have for the character but in a ridiculously absurd setting, whilst getting your blocking and your timing exactly right, otherwise you don't get the laugh that you need for the show to move on. You've got to be both truthful and a master technician at the same time - and that's hard."

The successful UK production has been described as having sets as shaky as a Conservative immigration manifesto pledge

I don't think anybody can really anticipate where the laughs will land

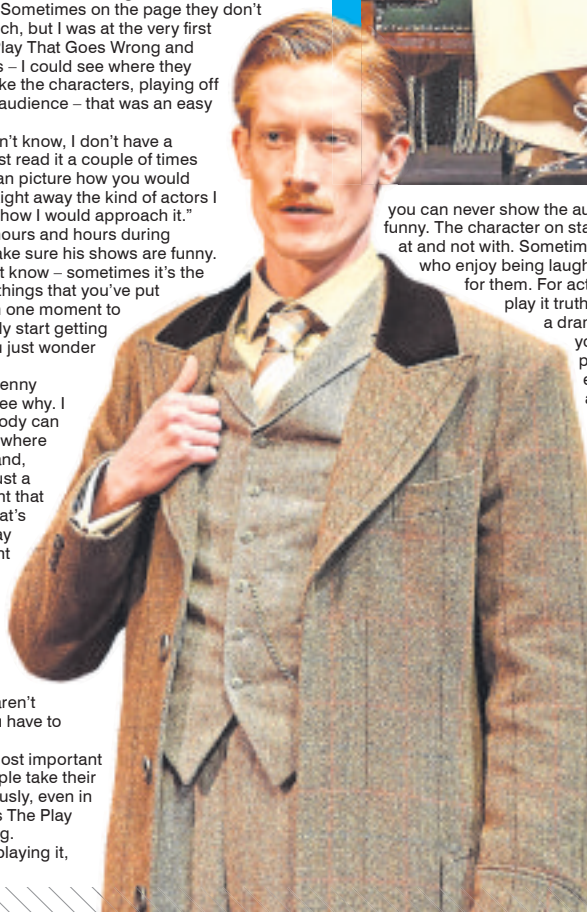
and a script as tortuous as a Diane Abbott interview. The show originally started in a pub theatre before transferring to the Trafalgar Studios, enjoying a UK tour and an extended run at the Duchess Theatre in the West End.

The writers and creators of the play, Henry Shields, Henry Lewis and Jonathan Sayer, are stunned that they were able to recreate their madcap roles on Broadway.

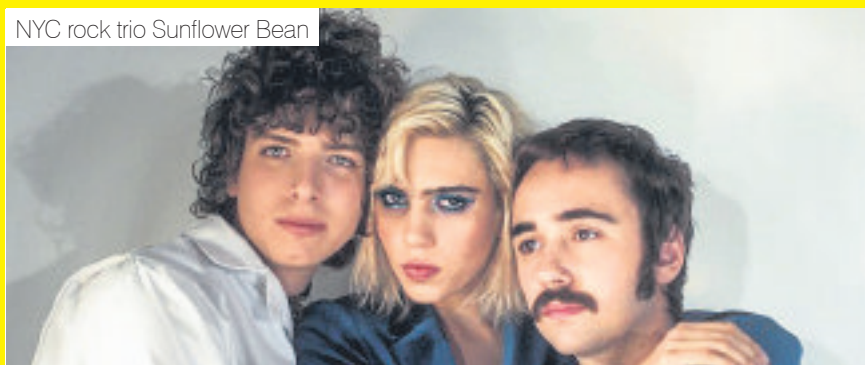
Henry Shields says: "It's been very positive. We've been overwhelmed as to how supportive American audiences have been."

Henry Lewis adds: "We haven't really changed much, most of the show is performed as it is in London. Over the course of the whole journey of the show lots has changed as it has been performed, but it hasn't changed much for Broadway audiences, just a few terms that aren't used in the USA and making sure that's clear."

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.



NYC rock trio Sunflower Bean



Traumatic times inspiring for young human Beans

New York trio Sunflower Bean tomorrow (Friday) release their second album, *Twentytwo in Blue*, ahead of a gig at the Hare and Hounds, Kings Heath, on Tuesday.

The album gets its title from the fact that all members of the band – Julia Cumming, Jacob Faber and Nick Kivlen – are 22-years-old.

The album comes just over two years since the release of their critically acclaimed debut album *Human Ceremony*. Since then the band's classic rock inspired sound has matured and gigs supporting Wolf Alice last year have won them new fans in the UK.

Twentytwo in Blue shows Sunflower Bean staying true to their guitar band core, while exploring new sonic textures with more direct and progressive

themes. It showcases how far the band has come since playing together in their high school days.

To celebrate the album Sunflower Bean share a new single, *Crisis Fest*, the follow up to the catchy, almost Fleetwood Mac-like, *I Was A Fool*.

"2017—we know/ Reality's one big sick show/ Every day's a crisis fest," vocalist and bassist Julia sings. "Last year was extremely alarming, traumatic, and politically volatile," says the band. "While writing this album, we often reflected back on the people we met while on tour."

"We felt a strong kinship with the audiences that came to see us all over the country, and we wanted to write a song for them – something to capture the anxieties of an uncertain future."

Disney favourites to enchant the ice



From wheels to waves, icy wonderlands to infinity and beyond, dozens of favourite Disney moments will come to life at Disney On Ice presents *Worlds of Enchantment*.

Eight shows are planned at Birmingham's Genting Arena between Wednesday (March 28) and Sunday (April 1) as the magic of Disney is brought to life by some of the world's best ice skaters.

The latest show is called *Worlds of Enchantment* and fans can enter the dazzling world of Disney

for non-stop fun with four of their favourite Disney stories.

There will be the high-speed stunts of Lightning McQueen, Mater and the crew of Disney/Pixar's *Cars*, who will race across the ice like never before.

Fans can dive into adventure with Ariel in *The Little Mermaid's* enchanted undersea kingdom.

The toys are back in town as Buzz Lightyear, Woody, Jessie and the Toy Story gang escape from the rambunctious tots of Sunnyside Daycare in their most daring adventure ever.

And fans can also enter the wintry world of Arendelle with

sisters Anna and Elsa and pals Olaf and Kristoff from Disney's *Frozen*, as they learn that true love comes from within.

For tickets visit www.disneyonice.com or call the hotline on 0844 338 0338.

Performance Director for Disney on Ice, former Olympian Jackie Soames, is particularly happy that the world tour is coming to Birmingham as she hails from nearby Nuneaton. She embarked on her remarkable career, both solo and in pairs with John Jenkins, after learning to skate at Solihull Ice Rink at the age of eight.

Q.U.B.E. 2 is top of the blocks puzzler

You don't have to be familiar with the original to enjoy *Q.U.B.E. 2*, *Toxic Games'* immersive first person puzzle trek through a futuristic maze of monolith blocks. As Commander Emma Sutcliffe you move blocks and explore as a stranded protagonist with only a colleague on a communicator for help. Exploring and manipulating the environment poses challenges. There is a growing sense of unease. This addictive game is available for Xbox One, Playstation 4 and PC.



Magic night ahead for indie rock fans

GIG highlights include tonight's (Thursday's) sold out show by The Magic Gang at Birmingham's O2 Institute 2 in Digbeth. Check out their slacker pop anthems on their just released debut album. Also tonight, singer, songwriter and frontman of rock band Idlewild, Roddy Woomble, has a gig at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath. He won acclaim for latest solo album *The Deluder* and will also be playing some Idlewild songs. Support from Tom Joshua. The Wombats will be playing tracks from fourth album *Beautiful People Will Ruin Your Life* at the O2 Institute tomorrow night, whilst rising star singer-songwriter Tom Walker plays the venue's other room. Claire Hastings, BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year, is with Aidan Moodie at Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, Saturday.

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Picasso

Picasso's Last Stand (BBC2, 9pm)
Documentary telling the story of the last decade of the great artist's life, through the memories of family, close friends and the people he allowed into his world in the 1960s. As his health declined in these final years, Picasso faced damaging criticism of his work for the first time, and intimate details about his bohemian lifestyle were revealed. Yet, in the midst of disaster, he rediscovered his revolutionary spirit with a creative surge that produced some of his most sexually frank and comic work.

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Chess

For the first time in 30 years, Chess will see a big revival in London with a star studded cast including Michael Ball and Alexandra Burke, for a limited time only. This symbolic production tells a story of love and political intrigue, set against the background of the Cold War in the late 1970s/early 1980s.

This epic musical love story features music by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson (former ABBA stars and songwriters) and lyrics by Tim Rice (famed for Jesus Christ Superstar, The Lion King and Evita).

London Theatre Break

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Strictly Ballroom

This passionate production is based on Baz Luhrmann's iconic film Strictly Ballroom. Set in Australia, this musical tells the story of championship ballroom dancer Scott as he decides to break the rules teaming up with his uncoordinated partner Fran and developing his own choreography in the aim of winning a prestigious dance competition.

Enjoy classic songs like Love is in the Air, Perhaps Perhaps Perhaps and Time After Time alongside a variety of catchy new numbers and sensationally choreographed routines that are sure to entertain.

London Theatre Break

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CHOICE

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Classic Mary Berry. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.30** BBC News: Weather. **12.45** Film: The Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists! (2012) Animated comedy, with the voice of Hugh Grant. **2.05** Gymnastics: World Cup Highlights. **3.50** The Boat Race. Live coverage of the men's and women's University Boat Races.

6.15 **Doodlebugs.** Sketch show in which inanimate objects share their thoughts on the world. With the voices of Kayvan Novak, Cardinal Burns, Morgana, Robinson and Spencer Jones.

6.30 **BBC News.**

6.40 **Regional Programme.**

6.45 **Pointless Celebrities.** A special Grange Hill version of the quiz, featuring Todd Carty, Alison Bettles, Paula Ann Bland, Lee MacDonald, Erkan Mustaf, Michelle Gayle, Francesca Martinez and Stuart Organ.

7.40 **Who Dares Wins.** Game show in which two pairs of complete strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject.

8.20 **Casualty.** The day of Robyn and Glen's wedding arrives, but the groom has a seizure while getting ready at the hotel. Rash treats a woman suffering from anxiety after the death of her fiancée.

9.10 **Troy: Fall of a City.** The Trojan royal family receive a message from the gods and embark on a daring raid with their newfound allies. Achilles is provoked into returning to battle Hector, while Helen's situation remains precarious. The sixth episode of David Farr's Ancient Greek historical drama based on the Trojan War and the love affair between Paris and Helen, starring Tom Weston-Jones, Louis Hunter, Jonas Armstrong, Bella Dayne, David Gifford, Johnny Harris, David Gyasi, Lemogang Tsipa, Chloe Pirrie and Joseph Mawle.

10.10 **BBC News:** Weather; National Lottery Update.

10.30 **Film: Guardians of the Galaxy.** (2014) A band of escapees from a prison space station battles an alien warlord for possession of a powerful artefact. Sci-fi adventure, starring Chris Pratt.

12.25 Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 The Wonder of Animals. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** The Designers. **8.00** Absolute Genius: Monster Builders. **8.30** Beyond Bionic. **9.00** Robot Wars. (R) **10.00** Gordon Buchanan: Elephant Family & Me. (R) **11.00** Famously Unfit for Sport Relief. (R) **12.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.30** Planet Earth. (R) **2.30** Me and My Dog: The Ultimate Contest. (R) **3.30** The Repair Shop. (R) **4.00** The Secret Helpers. (R) **5.00** Big Cats About the House. (R)

6.00 **Hugh's Wild West.** Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall celebrates volunteers who help wildlife in the West Country, meeting a woman who has transformed her home into a hedgehog hospital. Last in the series.

7.00 **Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby.** Giles Coren and Monica Galletti work in Ireland's Ashford Castle, dating back to 1228. Despite its rollercoaster ride through the ages Ashford has sustained strong community ties. (R)

8.00 **David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities.** The evolutionary documentary concludes, as David Attenborough profiles the Siamese fighting fish and the kangaroo, which has a kick so strong it can kill. Last in the series.

8.30 **Dad's Army.** The platoon takes part in an efficiency test in a bid to prove its worth, but mistakenly attacks a tea lady with onions from Jones's van. Guest starring Fulton Mackay. (R)

9.00 **Picasso's Last Stand.** Documentary telling the story of the last decade of the great artist's life, through the memories of family, close friends and the people he allowed into his world in the 1960s.

10.00 **Film: A Late Quartet.** (2012) A member of a string quartet announces his retirement, bringing up personal conflicts among the other musicians. Drama, with Christopher Walken and Philip Seymour Hoffman.

11.40 **Film: Safe Haven.** (2013) A woman trying to make a fresh start in a coastal town realises she must confront the dark past she is running from. Romantic drama, with Julianne Hough.

2.30 (BST) Civilisations. (R) **3.30** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Bagel and Becky Show. (R) **8.30** The Repair Shop. (R) **8.40** Scooby-Doo! (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **12.20** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Dancing on Ice – The Final. (R) **2.30** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **3.00** Celebrity Catchphrase. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R) **6.00** ITV News: Weather.

6.20 **Regional Programme:** Weather.

6.30 **New You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring a woman being attacked by a remote-controlled plane and a man hit by a giant trampoline during a hurricane.

7.00 **Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** Comedian Alan Carr joins the fun as this week's guest announcer, while the Georgie duo go up against cast members from Coronation Street in the return of Make 'Em Laugh. Plus, Stephen Mulhern hits the streets of Warrington in the latest edition of In for a Penny, a lucky audience member gets the chance to Win the Aids, and Sofa Watch sees more Places on the Plane up for grabs.

8.30 **The Voice UK.** Emma Willis presents the second of the knockout shows as the remaining acts sing for a place in next week's semi-final. Coaches Will.I.am, Tom Jones, Olly Murs and reigning champion Jennifer Hudson can pick only one act from their teams to progress in the competition, so there are some tough decisions to make. Helping them are R'n'B star Craig David, members of the Black Eyed Peas, Australian pop queen Kylie Minogue, 2006 winner of The X Factor Leona Lewis and The Voice UK's reigning champion, Mo'Nique.

10.30 **ITV News:** Weather.

10.45 **Film: Fast & Furious 5.** (2011) **2.00** (BST) Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Mobil 1: The Grid. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **2.50** Car SOS. **3.50** Coast vs Country. (R) **4.50** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. (R) **5.35** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R)

6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **Coastal Railways with Julie Walters.** The actress travels around the UK coast by train, beginning by boarding the famous Jacobite steam train for a trip along Scotland's West Highland Railway, famously featured in the Harry Potter movies. Along the way, Julie learns about herring gutting and blowing up railway lines, and meets a traditional Scottish storyteller on the Isle of Skye. (R)

8.00 **Britain at Low Tide.** Tori Herridge uncovers the story behind a dramatic night in 1976 when fishing trawler the Admiral Von Tromp went wildly off course in the North Sea, after setting off in Scarborough and running aground in Whitby, North Yorkshire, with the wreckage still visible on the shores of Saltwick Bay to this day. The massive remains of a First World War fort lead Tori to tales of love in the East Yorkshire hamlet of Kilssea, and she learns the strange fate of two ships that were built in Hull but ended up on top of a mountain in Peru.

9.00 **Film: Everest.** (2015) Premiere. Two expeditions set out to climb to the summit of the world's highest mountain. Both parties of mountaineers get caught in one of the fiercest snowstorms ever recorded, and face a desperate struggle to survive against the elements. Fact-based adventure, starring Jason Clarke, Josh Brolin, Jake Gyllenhaal and Keira Knightley.

11.20 **Film: Predator 2.** (1990) Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Danny Glover and Bill Paxton.

2.20 (BST) Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **3.10** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.15** Coast vs Country. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.50** Live Aviva Premiership Rugby Union. Saracens v Harlequins (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)

6.10 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Kevin Stokes and Brian O'Shaughnessy chase a £16,000 debt run up by a coach company and Stewart McCracken and Elmor Victor face a heartbreaking house repossession. (R)

7.00 **Cruising with Jane McDonald.** Jane cruises around Cuba aboard the Celestial Crystal, starting and ending in Havana, sampling the relatively new tourist industry of the Caribbean beach. (R)

7.55 **5 News Weekend.**

8.00 **Inside Windsor Castle.** Documentary marking the centenary of the Windsor dynasty by examining the history of the royal residence over the past 80 years, looking at the tragedies and triumphs that have had an impact on the Queen and her family. The first edition reflects on the events of the past 25 years, including the fire in November 1992 that started in the private chapel and came at the end of a terrible year for the royals, with marital troubles hitting the Queen's three elder children. (R)

9.00 **King Tut's Treasure Secrets.** New series. Documentary exploring the thousands of items found with the great Egyptian pharaoh when his tomb was first uncovered.

9.55 **King Tut's Tomb: The Hidden Chamber.** Documentary examining recent discoveries made in the famous burial chamber, which archaeologists now believe may also be the resting place of Queen Nefertiti. (R)

10.50 **Secrets of the Valley of the Kings.** An exploration of the Valley of the Kings, the royal necropolis of the pharaohs and the world's most famous royal burial ground. (R)

11.40 **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two.

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** **Film:** (BST) Due Date. (2010) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Great Artists. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Lost Kingdoms of Central America **8.00** The Silk Road **9.00** Below the Surface **10.30** Top of the Pops: 1985 **11.30** Blues at the BBC **12.30** Ballrooms and Ballerinas: Dance at the BBC **2.30** (BST) Lost Kingdoms of Central America **3.30** The Silk Road **4.30** Secret Knowledge: Hidden Jewels of the Cheapside Hoard **5.00** Close

ITV2

11.20 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **12.50** You've Been Framed! Funniest 100 **1.55** **Film:** Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (2003) **2.55** FYI Daily **3.00** **Film:** Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (2003) **3.40** **Film:** Happy Feet (2006) **4.40** FYI Daily **4.45** **Film:** Happy Feet (2006) **5.45** **Film:** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **6.45** FYI Daily **6.50** **Film:** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **7.50** **Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) **8.55** FYI Daily **9.00** **Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) **10.30** Celebrity Juice **11.15** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **2.05** (BST) American Dad! **2.30** Action Team

ITV3

12.30 Agatha Christie's Marple **2.40** **Film:** Evil Under the Sun (1982) **5.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **2.55** (BST) ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

11.25 Monster Carp **1.30** **Film:** Live from Doncaster. **4.00** **Film:** Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10** **Film:** Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **5.45** Storage Wars **6.45** Live Snooker: Players Championship. **11.00** **Film:** Windtalkers (2002) **12.10** FYI Daily **12.15** **Film:** Windtalkers (2002) **2.45** (BST) ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.30 **Film:** Dragonball Evolution (2009) **2.05** Rude (ish) Tube Shorts **2.30** The Goldbergs **3.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.30** Young Sheldon **4.00** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer **5.15** Extreme Cake Makers **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film:** 2 Guns (2013) **11.05** Gogglebox **12.10** Five Star Hotel **2.15** (BST) Five Star Hotel **3.20** The Inbetweeners **3.45** How I Met Your Mother **Film4**

11.00 Anastasia (1997) **1.00** Flight of the Navigator (1986) **2.50** The Indian in the Cupboard (1995) **4.40** Carry On Cabby (1963) **6.35** Mrs Doubtfire (1993) **9.00** American Ultra (2015) **10.50** Zombieland (2009) **12.30** Nymphomaniac: Volume II (2013) **4.00** (BST) Close

CHOICE



Ewan and Colin McGregor

RAF at 100 with Ewan and Colin McGregor (BBC1, 8.30pm)

The actor and his former pilot brother present a celebration of the Royal Air Force's centenary, taking to the skies in iconic planes from the First World War to the present day. They also meet service personnel from throughout the RAF's history, including a veteran of the Battle of Britain, former female members of the Air Transport Auxiliary, crew members who had the responsibility of dropping the atom bomb, modern-day Typhoon fighter crews, and the last pilot to be involved in a dogfight.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** BBC News; Weather. **12.30** MasterChef. (R) **1.30** MasterChef. (R) **2.30** MasterChef. (R) **3.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.00** Regional Programme. **4.30** Songs of Praise. **5.05** Sport Relief 2018: The Best Bits.

6.05 BBC News.**6.20 Regional Programme.**

6.30 **Countryfile.** Matt Baker reports on a conservation project in Shropshire to prevent the county's rivers being polluted by iron ore brought to the surface by the area's long history of mining. Ellie Harrison visits a pop-up restaurant using only locally sourced ingredients and goes searching for pine martens. Steve Brown meets a glass sculptor, and Tom Heap reports on declining numbers of British hedgehogs.

7.30 **Hold the Sunset.** Phil fears he will lose Edith to Bob, and that a face from his past may make an unwelcome reappearance. Last in the series.

8.00 **MasterChef.** John Torode and Gregg Wallace present the first of two programmes in which eight of the 16 cooks to make it through the heats must prepare one of their favourite dishes.

8.30 **RAF at 100 with Ewan and Colin McGregor.** The actor and his former pilot brother present a celebration of the Royal Air Force's centenary, taking to the skies in iconic planes from the First World War to the present day. They also meet service personnel from throughout the RAF's history, including a veteran of the Battle of Britain, former female members of the Air Transport Auxiliary, crew members who had the responsibility of dropping the atom bomb, modern-day Typhoon fighter crews, and the last pilot to be involved in a dogfight.

10.00 BBC News.**10.20 Regional Programme.**

10.30 **Film: War of the Worlds.** (2005) A divorced father tries to protect his two children as alien war machines start to wipe out the human race. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi thriller, with Tom Cruise.

12.15 The Women's Football Show. **12.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.20 Coast. (R) **7.20** The Instant Gardener. (R) **8.05** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.35** Saturday Kitchen Best Bits. **11.05** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **11.50** Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) **12.20** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **1.20** Film: Bringing Up Baby. (1938) Screwball comedy, starring Katharine Hepburn and Cary Grant. **3.00** Pilgrimage: The Road to Santiago. (R) **4.00** The Ladykillers. Pest Detectives. (R) **5.00** Film: Real Steel. (2011) Sci-fi drama, starring Hugh Jackman.

7.00 **Down the Mighty River with Steve Backshall.** The naturalist travels down the Balien River in New Guinea from its source to the sea, hoping to encounter the ancient tribes and dangerous wildlife that live along its banks and in the surrounding jungle. He begins his journey inland at Lake Habbema, and braves some of the world's fiercest white water rapids. Along the way, he stays in a village belonging to the Dani tribe and ventures into some previously unexplored caves. (R)

8.00 **Top Gear.** Matt LeBlanc test drives the Ferrari 812 Superfast, while Rory Reid travels to the US in search of a muscle car that is illegal in Europe. With guest Vicky McClure (Line of Duty).

9.00 **Reggie Yates: Searching for Grenfell's Lost Lives.** The presenter meets families and friends of people who died in the Grenfell fire, to gain an understanding of the disaster's victims as people and as members of a community.

10.00 **Mock the Week.** James Acaster, Angela Barnes, Kerry Goddman, Nish Kumar and Glenn Moore join host Dara O Briain and regular Hugh Dennis for the topical comedy show. (R)

10.30 **Top Gear: Extra Gear.** Chris Harris takes the new Porsche GT3 for a spin on the track, while motoring journalist Alex Kersten and racing engineer Mark Wynne chat about the future of the V12 engine.

10.55 **Film: Life of Crime.** (2013) Two criminals kidnap the wife of a corrupt real-estate tycoon, only to discover he is not willing to pay their ransom demand. Comedy, with Jennifer Aniston.

12.30 Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **1.30** Holby City. (R) **2.30** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Spy School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Britain's Best Walks with Julia Bradbury. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** The Voice UK. (R) **12.50** ITV News: Weather. **1.00** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. (R) **2.30** You've Been Framed! (R) **3.00** Tenable. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. (R) **5.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R)

6.00 **Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs.** (R)

6.30 **ITV News: Weather.**

6.45 **Regional Programme; Weather.**

7.00 **Celebrity Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts a celebrity edition of the game show, asking contestants Jonathan Ross, Tess Daly and Linda Robson to "see it and say it" as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clips. After the first elimination, the two remaining players battle to reach the Super Catchphrase round, where one of them could win £50,000 for the charity of their choice.

8.00 **The Durrells.** Louisa and Larry receive the devastating news that Aunt Hermione has died in her sleep. As the family make arrangements to have her body sent back to England, Margo gets to work on organising a memorial service. Leslie decides that he wants to be with Dionisia, and prepares to let Daphne down gently – however, it turns out that she is pregnant with his child, and her father is determined that they must get married as soon as possible. Gerry becomes fascinated by a wall in the back garden that is covered in insects.

9.00 **The Good Karma Hospital.** Lydia tries to regain the trust of a former patient.

10.00 **ITV News: Weather.**

10.20 **Peston on Sunday.** (R)

11.20 **Film: Captain Corelli's Mandolin.** (2001)

1.25 Jackpot247. **3.00** Marcella. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The King of Queens. (R) **6.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.25** Frasier. (R) **7.55** Frasier. (R) **8.25** Race of Champions 2018. **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix Highlights. **5.15** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 **Homes by the Med.** Charlie Luxton explores Croatia's Dalmatian coast and islands, and visits a gleaming white property that cascades down the side of a cliff on the island of Brac. Previously shown on More4.

8.00 **Escape to the Chateau.** Dick celebrates his birthday with a hot air balloon ride over the chateau at sunrise, before settling to work in the kitchen making his own jam and alcohol from the vast quantities of fresh fruit waiting to be harvested in the garden. Angel starts work on a new project of her own – building a geodesic dome on top of a floating platform.

9.00 **Homeland.** Saul calls an old friend, while Wellington has a problem and Carrie enjoys a win. Starring Claire Danes.

10.15 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr returns with the comedy version of the words-and-numbers quiz, with Jon Richardson and James Acaster teaming up against Lee Mack and Sarah Millman. (R)

11.10 **Film: Rush.** (2013) Formula One racers James Hunt and Niki Lauda develop a fierce rivalry over the course of the 1976 championship. Fact-based drama, with Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Bruhl.

1.25 The Last Leg. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by celebrity guests for a comic review of the significant moments of the past seven days. Last in the series. (R) **2.20** The Question Jury. Tension mounts and loyalties are put to the test as two of the jurors go head to head in a battle to win the money. (R) **3.15** KOTV Boxing Weekly. Action from bouts around the world. **3.45** Mobil 1: The Grid. (R) **4.40** Coast vs Country. Sara Damerji and Kerr Drummond help Tony and Michelle, who have lived in Oxfordshire for 10 years and are keen to sample a more relaxed pace of life in Dorset. (R) **5.35** Streetmate. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.25** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.30** Moby. (R) **6.35** Simon. (R) **6.40** Simon. (R) **6.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.50** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.05** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.15** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.25** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.35** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **7.55** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.15** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.30** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.15** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **10.50** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 4. (R) **11.20** Police Interceptors: Dog Squad Special. (R) **12.20** Film: The Illusionist. (2006) Mystery thriller, starring Edward Norton. **2.25** Film: The Man in the Iron Mask. (1998) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Leonardo DiCaprio. **4.45** Film: A Knight's Tale. (2001) Medieval comedy adventure, starring Heath Ledger. **5.45** 5 News Update. **5.50** Film: A Knight's Tale. (2001) Concluded.

7.15 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** The agents try to recover more than £12,000 owed by a jeweller to one of his suppliers, and chase up more than £5,000 owed by a tenant to her former landlord for rent arrears. (R)

8.00 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Agents chase more than £1,700 in unpaid parking fines in south-east London, but struggle to pinpoint the debtor. Meanwhile, officers in north Wales try to recover the £2,000 owed by a tradesman to a former employer, and in Kent agents chase £8,000 owed by a jewellery shop to two former employees. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 **Film: The Bodyguard.** (1992) A famous singer subjected to death threats by an obsessive fan is persuaded to hire a former secret service agent as her bodyguard, but neither of them realise the effect they are about to have on each other's lives. Romantic thriller, starring Kevin Costner.

10.00 5 News Update.

10.05 **Film: The Bodyguard.** (1992) Concluded.

11.35 **Film: Whitney Houston: A Tragic Love.** (2015)

1.20 Whitney Houston: Her Greatest Hits. (R) **2.10** SuperCasino. **3.10** Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind Ups. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Ancient Greece: The Greatest Show on Earth **9.00** Capability Brown's Unfinished Garden **10.00** The Banker's Guide to Art **11.30** The Secret Life of Children's Books **12.00** The World's Most Beautiful Eggs: The Genius of Carl Fabergé **1.00** Mooninland Tales: The Life of Tove Jansson **2.00** Capability Brown's Unfinished Garden **3.00** And Then There Were None **4.00** Close

ITV2

12.10 You've Been Framed!: Top 100 Animals **1.10** The Voice UK **3.05** Britain's Got Talent: Stephen's Unsung Heroes **4.10** Film: Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) **5.10** FYI Daily **5.15** Film: Happy Feet Two (2011) **6.55** FYI Daily **7.00** Film: Happy Feet Two (2011) **8.00** Film: Skyfall (2012) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05** Film: Skyfall (2012) **10.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **1.15** Ibiza Weekender **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.55 A Touch of Frost **1.55** Film: Brief Encounter **1.45** The Voice UK **3.40** Film: The Theory of Everything (2014) **6.00** Vera **8.00** The Cruise **9.00** Joanna Lumley's Trans-Siberian Adventure **10.00** Murder on the Home Front **12.05** Film: Evil Under the Sun (1982) **2.25** Blue Murder **3.40** Rising Damp **4.05** Road to Avonlea **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

12.15 Live Snooker: Players Championship. The opening session of the final from Venue Cymru, Llandudno. **5.15** Storage Wars **6.45** Live Snooker: Players Championship. **11.15** Film: Senna (2010) **12.15** FYI Daily **12.20** Film: Senna (2010) **1.25** It's Not Rocket Science **2.30** Fishing Allstars **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.30 The Goldbergs **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **5.00** The Goldbergs **5.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.00** Young Sheldon **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.55** Film: Fantastic Four (2005) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **11.10** The Big Bang Theory **12.05** Five Star Hotel **3.05** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.50** Hollyoaks

Film4

11.00 Bridge to Terabithia (2007) **1.00** Ever After: A Cinderella Story (1998) **3.35** Hugo (2011) **6.05** The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (2013) **9.00** Oblivion (2013) **11.25** Child 44 (2015) **2.05** Submarine (2010) **4.00** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

Kidnapped: Desperate Hours, Channel 5, 3.15pm
An American wife's world is turned upside down when her husband, the son of a Mexican newspaper publisher, is kidnapped. Drama, starring Teri Polo, Esai Morales and Nicholas Gonzalez. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2011)

TUESDAY

Mr & Mrs Smith, Channel 5, 10pm
An outwardly bored suburban couple lead double lives as professional assassins, both unaware of their partner's secret. When they are hired to kill each other, the deadly situation puts some much-needed excitement back into their stale relationship. Comedy adventure, starring Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Vince Vaughn and Adam Brody. (2005)

WEDNESDAY

Under Siege, Channel 5, 11.05pm
Terrorists infiltrate a US battleship in a carefully orchestrated move to steal its arsenal of nuclear weapons, unaware the ship's resourceful cook - a veteran US Navy Seal - and a scantily clad stripper are about to foil their plans. Action adventure, starring Steven Seagal, Erika Eleniak, Gary Busey and Tommy Lee Jones. (1992)



Fast & Furious, Friday, ITV, 9pm

THURSDAY

Buried Secrets, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Former cop Sarah Winters publishes her first novel, and finds herself on the wrong side of the law when her book's plot seems to mirror an all-too-real murder case. Thriller, starring Sarah Carter. (2014)

FRIDAY

Fast & Furious 7, ITV, 9pm
Premiere. After defeating Owen Shaw and his crew and securing amnesty for their past crimes, Dom, Brian and the rest of the team return home to live normal lives again. However Shaw's older brother Deckard - a rogue special forces assassin vows revenge on Dom, who he holds responsible for leaving Owen in a coma. Action thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel, Jason Statham and Paul Walker in his last film role. (2015)

Famous faces show their naked ambition for a good cause

It takes some cojones to back a film, no matter how good the script is. In 1996, the idea of unemployed Sheffield blokes stripping on stage sounded like a bad idea for a TV one-off, let alone a big screen comedy.

But great films are never born without risk, and by the time it saw the light of day a year later, The Full Monty went from indie curio to major blockbuster.

While other Brit flicks of 1997, like Lawn Dogs and Face, vanished with the skill of a stealth fighter, The Full Monty became a phenomenon.

The VHS copies (and later DVDs) sold out in no time; worthy yet jobbing actors like Tom Wilkinson, Mark Addy and Robert Carlyle were wooed by Hollywood, and aside from Anne Dudley landing an Oscar for her inspired score, the film was turned into a successful stage show.

Last summer, the brand was also adapted for a hit ITV spectacular in which famous faces stripped off to raise awareness of men's cancers.

Now it's back for a new full-frontal extravaganza, and this time it's live from Sheffield, the home of the original movie.

Ashley Banjo and Alexander Armstrong will be putting together a bigger and bolder show, and they are joined by TV presenter Jeff Brazier; former Rugby International star Ugo Monye and TOWIE veteran James Argent.

And there's a load more talent joining them, from the Wanted's Tom Parker, ex-footballer John Hartson, and chef Ainsley Harriot to former EastEnder John Partridge.

They will share their personal stories and learn how to shed their iconic security guard uniforms to stir up a storm on stage in the Steel City. Hopefully they will also inspire more men to make vital checks that could save lives.

"Last year's show was a major success, particularly given it was unknown territory," explains Alexander. "But now we want to see if we can aim for an even better performance to grab people's

attention again for this cause.

"Hopefully, we're in for even more fun as we take another bunch of blokes and turn them into show stoppers capable of turning the audience into a frenzy."

Ashley adds: "After the amazing time we had last year, I can't wait to get the chance to teach the 2018 intake how to forget their inhibitions and put on an unforgettable show to raise awareness for this incredibly important issue that really can save lives."

A day after this show airs, some familiar faces will be popping up in another ITV special, The Real Full Monty: Ladies' Night.

Presenters Coleen Nolan and Sarah-Jane Crawford, and actresses Helen Lederer and Ruth Madoc are determined to show the boys how it's done and raise awareness of breast cancer.

They are joined by broadcaster Victoria Derbyshire; Emmerdale's Sally Dexter; reality star Megan McKenna and former Liberty X singer Michelle Heaton.



The Real Full Monty: Live, Wednesday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

Come Home

BBC1, 9pm

Award-winning screenwriter Danny Brocklehurst is one of the brains behind this three-part family drama. Set in Northern Ireland, it focuses on mother Marie (Paula Malcomson), who decides to walk out on husband Greg (Christopher Eccleston), and their three children. The first episode is told from Greg's perspective, and follows him and their kids as they struggle to comprehend their mother's actions. While Greg juggles work at Farrell Motors, raising his children and coping with the trials and tribulations of dating again, he tries to keep a sense of normality. However, it remains to be seen whether he will be able to move on when he's trapped in the past. With the aid of multiple timeframes, viewpoints and flashbacks, Greg and Marie's story should be THE talking point for many around the UK.

WEDNESDAY

The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story
BBC2, 9pm

The fact-based US crime drama continues. Andrew Cunanan



Come Home, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

invites himself to stay in Minneapolis with friends David Madson and Jeff Trail. Although Jeff has managed to build a new life for himself in the city, he is still troubled by the ending of his US Navy career back in 1995. Meanwhile, Gianni Versace opens up about his relationship with his partner Antonio to a magazine, against the advice of Donatella. Starring Darren Criss, Cody Fern, Finn Wittrock, Edgar Ramirez, Ricky Martin and Penelope Cruz.

THURSDAY

The Real Full Monty: Ladies' Night
ITV, 9pm

Following the success of last year's The Real Full Monty - and last night's follow up - it's the turn of a group of female celebrities to bare all in the name of cancer awareness. However, they won't just be looking to the men and the hit film The Full Monty for inspiration, as the programme also marks 20 years since the ecalander girls' of the

Rylstone and District WI posed for their iconic nude photos. The ladies taking part are TV presenter Coleen Nolan, broadcaster Victoria Derbyshire, Emmerdale actress Sally Dexter, reality TV star Megan McKenna, former Liberty X singer Michelle Heaton, actress Helen Lederer, TV legend Ruth Madoc and presenter Sarah-Jane Crawford, and the issue of breast cancer awareness is close to all their hearts. But will that be enough to get them over their body issues and inhibitions as they prepare to put on a show?

FRIDAY

Britain's Great Cathedrals with Tony Robinson
Channel 5, 8pm

New series. The actor visits York Minster, which over the past 800 years, has been a backdrop to some of the most dramatic events in British history. It houses more than half of all the world's medieval glass, including the Rose Window, commissioned by Henry VIII, and the East Window, the largest stained glass window in the world. A succession of outspoken bishops of York have defied Nazis, married kings and queens, and more recently championed equality with Archbishop John Sentamu, the country's first black bishop, consecrating the world's first female bishop, Libby Lane, in 2014.

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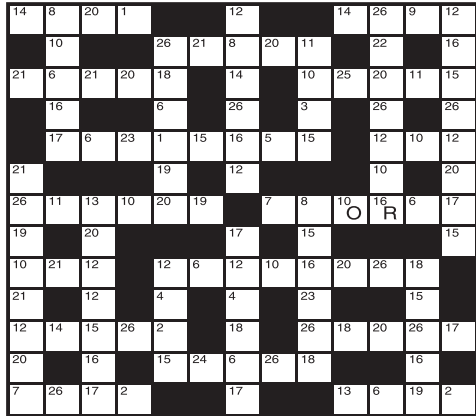
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	F	H	G	D	N	X	R	U	M	K	C	W	P
14	J	S	I	Q	O	Z	E	V	A	T	L	B	Y

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

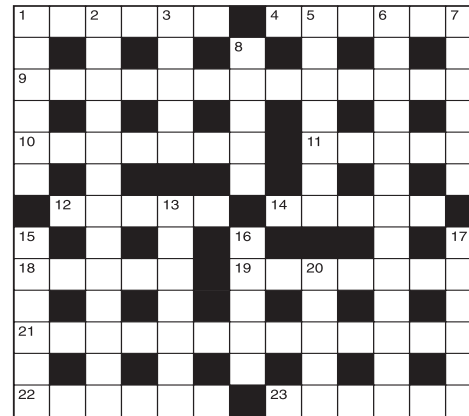
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Unsavoury scoundrel (3,3)
4. This singer, given a chance, could win a fortune (6)
9. A job done for nothing? (9,4)
10. Listens out for recruits (7)
11. Superstitious symbol of many following a gambling system (5)
12. Am given little scope (5)
14. Bird doctor goes round to object (5)
18. Shape altered a great deal (5)
19. A bone from Munster (7)
21. Having the wisdom not to get excited (13)
22. What water pipes should be kept behind? (6)
23. Credit is twice provided in an emergency (6)

Down

1. Strike for which the catering staff is responsible (6)
2. Ambiguous combination of nobleman and guide (6,7)
3. Entrances groups of spectators (5)
5. It may be worn as a favour (7)
6. What a metalworker may say when they go wrong? (5,8)
7. I smoke a strange mixture, being a northerner (6)
8. A case in point? Finish with just the opposite (5)
13. Waiting to be stocked (2,5)
15. The Spanish man comes first in church (6)
16. Legally prevent poets being translated (5)
17. Yet they may form a large part of the weekly wash (6)
20. Three mixed the upper air (5)



Quick Clues:

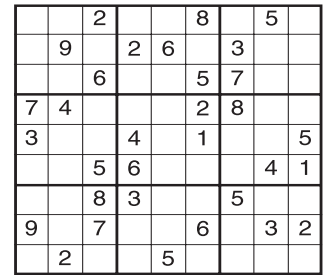
Across

1. Far off (6)
4. Self-possession (6)
9. Unselfish (13)
10. Disease (7)
11. Scorch (5)
12. Pungent (5)
14. Viper (5)
18. Cordage (5)
19. Plant (7)
21. On sale, cheaply (5,3,1,4)
22. Signify (6)
23. Pure (6)

Down

1. Diminish (6)
2. Mistaken idea (13)
3. Taut (5)
5. Delighted (7)
6. In impatient suspense (2,11)
7. Pester (6)
8. Postpone (5)
13. Visible (2,5)
15. Cold (6)
16. Pitch (5)
17. Shoe (6)
20. Confound (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

8	6	3	2	1	4	7	9	5
1	2	4	5	9	7	6	3	8
9	7	5	6	8	3	4	2	1
5	3	1	9	7	6	8	4	2
6	8	7	3	4	2	1	5	9
2	4	9	1	5	8	3	6	7
4	5	8	7	3	9	2	1	6
7	1	2	4	6	5	9	8	3
3	9	6	8	2	1	5	7	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Health resort; 7 Staff; 8 Acute; 9 Aid; 10 Distended; 11 Panama; 12 Dangle; 15 Recondite; 17 Yes; 18 Noise; 19 Timed; 21 Consolidates. Down: 1 Hair apparent; 2 Tea; 3 Refuse; 4 Stalemate; 5 Round; 6 Heedlessness; 7 Sedan; 10 Dominers; 13 Guede; 14 Pistol; 16 Cairo; 20 Mad. QUICK - Across: 1 San Francisco; 7 After; 8 Train; 9 Tie; 10 Fragrance; 11 Nudist; 12 Reform; 15 Sepulchre; 17 Inn; 18 Arena; 19 Ocean; 21 Here and there. Down: 1 Shooting star; 2 Rot; 3 Normal; 4 Intervene; 5 Chain; 6 Interminable; 7 Ahead; 10 Fusillade; 13 Orion; 14 Thrown; 16 Piece; 20 Eat.

Quiz

1. Whose novel Brideshead Revisited was published in 1945?
2. On which Hebridean island is Fingal's Cave?
3. Which A-Team star died in 1994?
4. Which British coin was discontinued in 1961?
5. Which ceremonial office is held by the Lordship of Scrivelsby, Lincolnshire?
6. Who wrote the classic jazz number Round Midnight?
7. What is the capital of Croatia?
8. Who made his US film debut as Christ in The Greatest Story Ever Told?
9. Which Indian state's name is Sanskrit for 'five rivers'?
10. Who is the host of University Challenge?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 7; 2 La Paz; 3 Utah; 4 Woollack; 5 Kigali; 6 Opium; 7 Sir Christopher Wren; 8 Volga; 9 Vulcan; 10 Yukon.

Niner: SLOUCHING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

239211
6539689
272486

gives a British city,
gives a British town,
gives a second British town.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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PROPERTY

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An outstanding and deceptively spacious home

An outstanding family home in School Lane, Shareshill, is deceptively spacious and extended, coming with generous landscaped gardens.

It is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £360,000 with no chain.

A stunning four-bedroom detached home, its accommodation briefly comprises a generous formal entrance hall, a formal lounge, an outstanding bespoke kitchen/diner, a utility room, two family bathrooms, four bedrooms with a dressing room to the master.

Outside there are generous landscaped gardens, an integral garage and a private driveway.

In more detail the entrance hallway has laminate flooring and stairs off to the first floor.

The lounge has a feature log burner on a tiled and brick-based fireplace.

Having double glazed bi-fold doors to the rear garden, the stunning kitchen/diner has wall, base and drawer units, fitted wall and base units, a central island, roll top work surfaces, an integrated fridge and freezer, space for a range cooker with tiled splash-backs and an over hob extractor, ample appliance space and a side door leading to the utility room.

The utility room has a window and door to the rear elevation, wall, base and drawer units, work surface over, ample appliance space and a door to the garage.

There is a shower room with a double walk-in shower, low level WC, a vanity sink unit and tiling to bathing areas.

Bedroom three is currently being used as a dining room. Bedroom four/sitting room has a window to the rear. The master bedroom has a window to the rear and a dressing room. Bedroom two lies to the rear. The family bathroom is also set to the rear. It has a roll top bath, a low level WC, a pedestal sink and tiling to bathing areas.

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LICHFIELD
£275,000

<<<

This enhanced three-bedroomed end of terraced property in Alamein Way, Lichfield, is for sale through Jayman Estate Agents at £275,000.

It comes with a detached garage and lies in a very sought-after location. It sits close to all local schools, amenities, transport links and is within just a few minutes walk from the city centre.

In brief the property comprises an entrance hall, a lounge, a dining room, a kitchen, an orangery and a guest cloakroom/WC. To the first floor is the master bedroom with an en-suite, two further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Outside there is a good-sized rear garden and a detached garage.

To book a viewing contact Jayman on 01543 505566 or visit the website at www.jayman.co.uk



Bungalow in quarter of an acre grounds

SLITTING MILL
£395,000

The Pingle in the village of Slitting Mill, near Rugeley, is a three/four bedroomed bungalow sitting in around a quarter of an acre plot.

It is for sale through Southwells Estate Agents at £395,000.

Slitting Mill lies close to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty of Cannock Chase.

This property's accommodation briefly comprises of an entrance porch and hall, an L-shaped lounge and dining room, a kitchen, a covered passageway, a study and bedroom, a bathroom/shower room and a separate WC. There are two further bedrooms to the first floor and a WC.

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Three-bed detached with stunning views

HEATH HAYES
£260,000

Having stunning open views to the front, 232 Cannock Road, Heath Hayes, is a fully renovated and deceptively spacious three-bedroom detached family home.

It is for sale through Flint & Co estate agents at £260,000. This property must be viewed to appreciate size and quality of upgrade throughout.

The accommodation briefly comprises a spacious entrance lobby/office area, a 24ft lounge/diner, a re-fitted kitchen/diner, a utility room, a guest cloakroom/WC, a master bedroom with an en-suite, two further double bedrooms, a refitted family bathroom, a driveway providing parking for several vehicles and a good-sized rear garden.

Contact Flint & Co on 01543 624400.



Individually built home on an exclusive development

HEDNESFORD
£325,000

<<<

An individually built four-bedroom detached property in Willows Croft, Hednesford, Cannock, lies in an exclusive development of just seven houses.

It is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £325,000.

In brief its accommodation consists of an entrance hallway, a dining room, a study/play room, a guest WC, an L-shaped well equipped breakfast kitchen and a spacious lounge with oak flooring. To the first floor there are four bedrooms with the master having a refitted en-suite shower room.

A further family bathroom completes the first floor.

Outside the property has a detached double garage and front, rear and side gardens and a driveway.

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LOT 3

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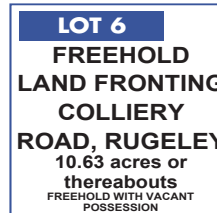
LOT 4

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◆ Traditional built inner terraced house
◆ Brick and slate construction
◆ Convenient for Walsall town centre and junction 9 of M6 motorway
◆ Producing £5,200 per annum
◆ EPC rating G (20)
GUIDE PRICE £70,000 - £75,000



LOT 5

PARCEL OF FREEHOLD LAND FORMING PART OF VACANT SITE ADJ 44 HUNTINGTON TERRACE ROAD, CANNOCK
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
◆ Roughly rectangular shaped parcel of freehold land
◆ With frontage of 3.5m to Huntington Terrace Road and long return depth there from of about 41m
GUIDE PRICE £5,000+



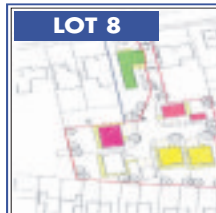
LOT 6

FREEHOLD LAND FRONTING COLLIERY ROAD, RUGELEY
10.63 acres or thereabouts
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
◆ A good size parcel of freehold land comprising part pasture and part mixed woodland
◆ Situated on the land is a building of improvised construction providing storage
◆ Ideally located for riding out onto Cannock Chase
◆ Conveniently located for Rugeley, Hednesford and Cannock
GUIDE PRICE £55,000+



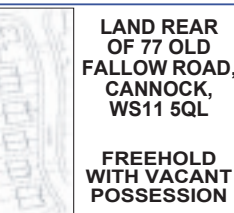
LOT 7

PARCEL OF LAND FRONTING STARTLEY LANE WITH RETURN FRONTAGE TO COLLIERY ROAD, RUGELEY
9.2 acres or thereabouts
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
◆ Parcel of freehold land comprising part pasture land and part mixed woodland
◆ Having on road frontage to Startley Lane and return frontage to Colliery Road
◆ Ideally located for riding out onto Cannock Chase
◆ Conveniently located for Rugeley, Hednesford and Cannock
GUIDE PRICE £45,000+



LOT 8

◆ Residential redevelopment site extending to 0.22 Ha or thereabouts
◆ Having O.P.P for the erection of 5 detached houses
◆ Planning application no: 15/0410 Cannock Chase Council
GUIDE PRICE £275,000 - £300,000



LOT 9

LAND REAR OF 77 OLD FALLOW ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 5QL
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION



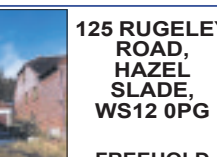
LOT 9

32 & 32A PRINCESS STREET, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 5JS
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
◆ Semi detached house arranged as two self contained flats
◆ Good size site
◆ Predominantly double glazed
◆ Ideal buy to let
◆ EPC rating number 32-E(54)
◆ EPC rating number 32a-D(58)
GUIDE PRICE £75,000+



LOT 10

◆ Detached bungalow (potential for re-development subject to planning permission)
◆ 2/3 bedrooms
◆ Detached garage
◆ Double glazed
◆ Gas central heating (No tested)
◆ In need of modernisation
◆ EPC rating E (53)
GUID EPRICE £200,000-£250,000



LOT 11

125 RUGELEY ROAD, HAZEL SLADE, WS12 0PG
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION



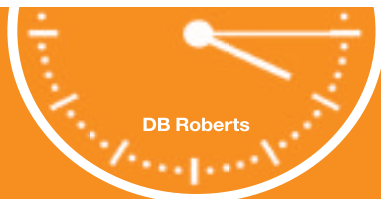
LOT 11

◆ A rare opportunity to acquire a detached cottage with benefit of planning permission for two storey extension to the rear
◆ Occupying grounds extending to approx 0.267 acres
◆ Set in rural position on the edge of the historic Chillington Estate with access to walks along the upper and lower avenue and shropshire union canal
◆ EPC rating G (1)
GUIDE PRICE £250,000+



LOT 11

PORT LANE COTTAGE, PORT LANE, CHILLINGTON, BREWOOD, WV9 5BH
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION



We're available longer

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9am till 4pm Saturdays
and 10am till 4pm Sundays.



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Pheasant Way Cannock

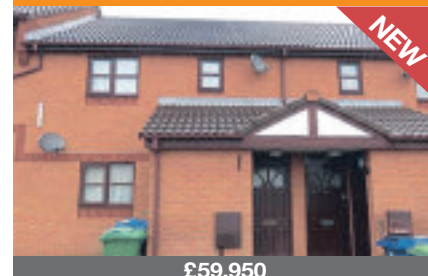


- Five Bedroom Detached Home
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two En Suites
- Contemporary Kitchen
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway & Garage
- High Specification Finish
- EPC = C



£375,000

Woodford End Chads Moor



£59,950

- One Bedroom First Floor Maisonette • Ideal Investment/First Time Buyer Opportunity
- Recently Redeclared • Lounge & Fitted Kitchen
- Allocated Parking • EPC = C

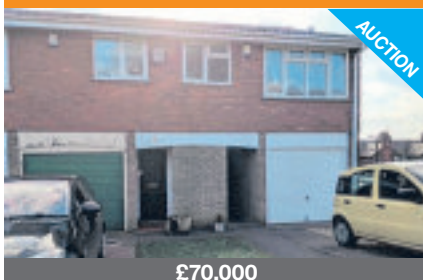
Capercaille Drive Heath Hayes



£220,000

- Four Bedroom Town House • En Suite to Master
- Kitchen Diner & Separate Lounge • Enclosed Rear Garden
- Garage & Driveway • EPC = C

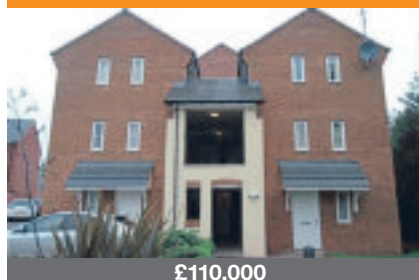
Longacres Hednesford



£70,000

- Auction T&C's Apply • No Upward Chain
- Spacious Ground Floor One Bedroom Apartment • Large Enclosed, Private Garden, Garage
- Shower Room • EPC = D

Hindley View Rugeley



£110,000

- Attention First Time Buyers and Commuters • Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Lounge Diner • Loft Storage Space
- Allocated Parking Space • EPC = B

Jubilee Close Great Wyrley



£169,950

- Semi Detached House • Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner • Low Maintenance Rear Garden
- Garage & Driveway • EPC = D

Stafford Street Heath Hayes



£200,000

- Three Bedroom Detached House • Kitchen Breakfast Room
- Lounge Diner • Conservatory
- Driveway & Garage • EPC = D

Rudyard Way Cannock



- Beautifully Presented Throughout
- Three Bedrooms
- Good Size Kitchen/Diner
- Guest WC
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Garage & Driveway
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- EPC = C

Lowland Road Cannock



£139,950

- Renovated Throughout • Three Bedrooms
- Driveway • Enclosed Rear Garden with Storage
- NO CHAIN! • EPC = F



£169,950

www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

25B Horsefair, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2EJ

JR
PROPERTIES

T:01889 577731

E:enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

Bower Lane, Etching Hill

£399,950

NEW



● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom detached dormer bungalow. The property sits on an extensive garden plot with open views across countryside to the front and parking for numerous vehicles with its long sweeping driveway. Internally the property boasts hallway, three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen, study, laundry room, refitted shower room, huge loft space ripe for conversion

Armitage Road, Rugeley

£249,950

STAR
BUY



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented detached three storey property in a popular location and built by Walton Homes. Internally the interesting layout includes four good size bedrooms, main bathroom and two en suites, refitted kitchen, lounge and garage with well presented frontage and rear garden, viewing highly recommended

Woodthorne Close, Rugeley

£155,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this extended three bedroom semi detached home, in a quiet cul de sac location. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge and Dining Room. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN

Finches Hill, Etching Hill

£169,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this refurbished three bedroom semi detached property in a popular location. The property is situated in a quiet cul de sac and is offered with No Upward Chain. Features include a refitted kitchen and bathroom, single garage and gardens to front and rear, viewing essential

The Lindens, Rugeley

£210,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three storey four bedroom family home. Offering flexible accommodation and having Entrance Hallway, Guest W.C, Breakfast Kitchen, Lounge and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom and Further Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite. Gardens to

Ravenhill Terrace, Brereton

£120,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented two bedroom end terrace property in a popular location. The property benefits from two good size bedrooms and reception rooms and is an ideal FTB/Investment purchase

Dyke Road, Armitage

£168,950

NEW
PRICE



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached home, in the sought after village of Armitage. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for parking and Gardens to front and rear.

Middle Croft, Hawksyard

£259,950

NEW
PRICE



● JR Properties are pleased to market this modern four bedroom family home, situated on the popular Hawksyard Estate. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge and Good sized Family Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Gardens to front and rear.

Waverley Gardens, Etching Hill

£349,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this unique detached property which benefits from far reaching views and backs onto Etching Hill. The property itself is exceptionally deceptive and offers spacious reception rooms, four bedrooms and modern bathrooms. The plot is unusually large with gardens to front, rear and side and direct access to Etching Hill to the rear. Viewing essential

"Serving Rugeley and its Villages"



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25B Horsefair, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2EJ

JR
PROPERTIES

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37

The Chronicle Thursday, March 22, 2018

Wattfield Close, Brereton

£239,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious link detached bungalow in a popular cul de sac location. The property is offer with no upward chain and comprises: hallway, three bedrooms, large lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, utility room, shower room and garden to rear, viewing essential

Lower Fufin, Hawksyard

£195,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented three bedroom end terrace situated on the popular Hawksyard development. The property has an open aspect to the front and features include, hallway, guest wc, kitchen/diner, lounge, three bedrooms, en suite and bathroom, gardens to front and side with two allocated parking spaces



Arch Street, Rugeley

£125,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented two bedroom terraced property close to the town centre. The property is an ideal FTB/ Investment property and is also offered with No Upward Chain. Gas central heating and double glazing, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom

Old Eaton Road, Rugeley

£244,950 Guide Price

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious five bedroom semi detached in a popular residential are of Rugeley. The extended property has to be viewed to appreciate and features gas central heating, double glazing, hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, five bedrooms, bathroom, garage and plentiful parking to front..viewing

Yew Tree Road, Brereton

£120,000

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached home, being offered with a TENANT IN SITU. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge/Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with Off Road parking.

Hednesford Road, Rugeley

£249,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this very well presented traditional semi detached family home. Arranged over three floors the property includes, reception porch, impressive dining kitchen, lounge, three good sized bedrooms, luxury bathroom and conservatory to the rear. The large rear garden and extensive frontage

Wordsworth Close, Armitage

£164,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached property in the popular village location of Armitage. Offered with No Upward Chain and positioned in a private drive location the property features three bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, guest wc, bathroom, conservatory and plentiful parking

Windsor Close, Rugeley

£245,000

MUST BE VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this exceptionally well presented detached family home in a cul-de-sac location. The property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. The property consists of entrance hallway, guest wc, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, three bedrooms (originally four), en suite

Upton Place, Rugeley

£149,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached family home being located in a popular area. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with Driveway.

Durham Drive, Rugeley

£249.950

NEW PRICE



● JR Properties are pleased to market this five bedroom extended detached family home. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Two Reception Rooms, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen and Utility Room. Landing to Five Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway providing parking for several vehicles

"Serving Rugeley and its Villages"





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CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

REDUCED

Modern Detached House
En Suite Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Lounge
Kitchen Diner
Double Glazing
Guest WC
3 Bedrooms
EPC Rating C

£210,000

CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

REDUCED

Traditional Detached House
3 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Lounge
Gas Central Heating
Kitchen Diner
Double Glazing
2nd Reception Room
Allocated Parking
Guest WC
EPC Rating D

£200,000

CHESLYN HAY
LITTLEWOOD LANE

Semi Detached House
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Lounge
Double Glazing
Kitchen
Rear Garden
Utility Room
Driveway
4 Bedrooms
EPC Rating D

£190,000

WEDGES MILLS
THE MEADOWS

REDUCED

Town House
Lounge
Kitchen
3 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Guest WC
Conservatory
GCH & DG
Rear Garden
Parking
EPC Rating C

£174,995

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

Unfurnished
Terrace House
Lounge
Dining Room
Kitchen
3 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Rear Garden
EPC Rating E

£129,995

HUNTINGTON
REDWING DRIVE

Terrace House
Lounge
Kitchen
2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Front and Rear Gardens
Driveway
EPC Rating D

£124,000

CANNOCK
WOOTTONS COURT

REDUCED

2nd Floor Flat
Lounge
Kitchen
1 Bedroom
Bathroom
Electric Heating
Protected Access
Allocated Parking
Sold with Sitting Tenant
EPC Rating D

£174,995

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

INVESTMENT PURCHASE
Protected Access
Lounge
Kitchen
1 Bedroom
Shower Room
Double Glazing
Parking
EPC Rating C

£71,995

WIMBLEBURY
HAMILTON CLOSE

REDUCED

First Floor Flat
Lounge
Kitchen
1 Bedroom
Bathroom
Electric Heating
Double Glazing
Spacious Loft
Parking
EPC Rating D

£65,000

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HEATH HAYES
SQUIRREL CLOSE

Unfurnished
Detached House
Lounge
Kitchen
3 Bedrooms
Bathroom
GCH & DG
Conservatory
Garden
Parking
EPC Rating E

£750 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
BROMLEY CLOSE

Unfurnished
Semi Detached House
Lounge
Kitchen Diner
3 Bedrooms
En Suite
Family Bathroom
GCH & DG
Rear Garden
Parking
EPC Rating D

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BLOXWICH
STONE LANE

Unfurnished
Town House
Lounge
Kitchen
3 Bedrooms
2 Bathrooms
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Garden
Parking
EPC Rating B

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BRIDGTOWN
ROMAN COURT A5

Unfurnished
Executive Apartments
Lounge
Kitchen
2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Protected Access
AVAILABLE MID MARCH
REGISTER INTEREST NOW

£625 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

Unfurnished
Semi Detached House
Lounge
Kitchen
Dining Room
2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
2 Bedrooms
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Rear Garden
EPC Rating E

£595 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BURNTWOOD
PRINCESS STREET

Unfurnished
End Terrace House
Lounge
Kitchen
2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Rear Garden
EPC Rating D

£125 pw & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
MAYCROFT CLOSE

Unfurnished
Ground Floor Flat
Lounge
Kitchen
1 Bedroom
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Garden
EPC Rating C

£475 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
CEDAR CLOSE

Unfurnished
Ground Floor Flat
Lounge
Kitchen
1 Bedroom
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Rear Garden
EPC Rating C

£395 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

WIMBLEBURY
HAMILTON CLOSE

Unfurnished
Open Plan Lounge
1 Bedroom
Shower Room
Heating
Double Glazing
Parking
EPC Rating D

£375 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

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COMING SOON - ROMAN COURT

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Great Wyrley Office - £500,000



GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Impressive detached residence
- Highly desirable location
- Superb kitchen / family room
- Good sized overall plot



Burntwood Office - £435,000



BURNTWOOD, ASHMOLE AVENUE

- Impressive detached residence
- Sought after residential location
- Immaculate decor throughout
- Off road parking & garage



Great Wyrley Office - £387,500



CHESLYN HAY, STATION STREET

- Detached period property
- Very spacious accommodation
- Three reception rooms
- Superb rear garden



Great Wyrley Office - £345,000



SHARESHILL, MIDDLE HILL BARNS

- Semi-detached barn conversion
- Immaculate interiors
- Open views over fields to rear
- Off road parking & garage



Great Wyrley Office - £325,000



CHESLYN HAY, MOUNT PLEASANT

- Impressive self-build residence
- Immaculately presented interiors
- Three bedrooms with en-suites
- Viewing highly recommended



Great Wyrley Office - £299,950



GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Superb detached bungalow
- Beautifully presented interiors
- Well appointed kitchen
- Impressive conservatory



Burntwood Office - £295,000



CHASE TERRACE, DUKE ROAD

- Impressive detached bungalow
- Deceptively spacious accommodation
- Stunning countryside views



Great Wyrley Office - £265,000



GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Superb semi-detached house
- Highly desirable location
- Extended accommodation
- Further development possible (STP)



Burntwood Office - £250,000



LICHFIELD, BROADBENT CLOSE

- Modern style mid town house
- Three storey accommodation
- Kitchen / diner
- Off road parking & garage



Burntwood Office - £195,000



CHASE TERRACE, NEW PLANT

- Well presented semi
- Pleasant Cul-de-Sac location
- Lounge / diner. Conservatory
- Off road parking & garage



Burntwood Office - £175,000



CHASETOWN, HOSPITAL ROAD

- Semi-detached residence
- Requires modernisation
- Superb field views
- No onward chain



Burntwood Office - £160,000



NORTON CANES, BRAEMAR ROAD

- Modern semi-detached home
- Ideally situated for road links
- No onward chain
- Driveway parking & garage



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Rugeley
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Jayman

Cannock
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Gainsbrook Crescent, Norton Canes

NEW



Offers Aroun £60,000

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Kitchen / Diner

40% Shared Ownership
Front & Rear Gardens
EPC D

Greenslade Grove, Hednesford

REDUCED



Offers Around £80,000

Well Presented Flat
One Bedroom
Lounge

Kitchen
Communal Garden
EPC D

Herondale, Hednesford

REDUCED



Offers Around £100,000

First Floor Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Lounge

Kitchen
Allocated Parking
EPC D

Hobby Way, Cannock

REDUCED



Offers Around £104,950

Ground Floor Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Kitchen / Diner

Bathroom
Allocated Parking
EPC C

Field Street, Cannock

REDUCED



Offers Over £120,000

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge

Dining Room
Rear Garden
EPC E

Bryans Way, Cannock



Offers Around £130,000

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge / Diner

Kitchen
Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

Hilton Lane, Walsall

NEW



Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge

Driveway
NO CHAIN
EPC D

Foxhill Close, Cannock

REDUCED



Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge

Dining Room
Rear Garden
EPC E

Sunley Drive, Hednesford



Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge

Kitchen
Garage
EPC G

Uttoxeter Road, Handsacre

REDUCED



Offers Around £180,000

End Terrace Property
Three Bedrooms
Two Bathrooms

Off Road Parking
NO CHAIN
EPC C

Shire Close, Cannock

REDUCED



Offers Around £185,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge

Bathroom, En Suite
Off Road Parking
EPC B

Glenthorne Drive, Walsall

NEW



Offers Around £190,000

Semi Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Lounge / Diner

Garage
Driveway
EPC E

Lower Fufin Close, Hawksyard

NEW



Offers Aound £195,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge

Kitchen
Rear Garden
EPC B

Partridge Close, Cannock

NEW



Offers Around £215,000

Link Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge / Diner

Kitchen
Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

Walsall Road, Great Wyrley

REDUCED



Offers Around £245,000

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Ample Off Road Parking

Outdoor Heated Swimming Pool
No Chain
EPC D

Alton Grove, Cannock

NEW



Offers Around £260,000

Detached Property
Three / Four Bedrooms
Lounge

Conservatory
Front & Rear Gardens
EPC D

Shugborough Way, Cannock



Offers Around £280,000

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Lounge

Conservatory
Off Road Parking
EPC D

Sherbrook Road, Cannock

REDUCED



Offers Around £310,000

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Three Reception Rooms

Off Road Parking
Corner Plot
EPC D

Station Road, Hednesford

REDUCED



Offers Around £240,000

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Lounge Area

Rear Garden
NO CHAIN
EPC E

Holly Hill Road, Rugeley

REDUCED



Offers Around £399,950

Detached Dormer Bungalow
Four / Five Bedrooms
Well Presented

Garage
Part Exchange Considered
EPC C

Free Valuations

Covering: Cannock, Hednesford, Rugeley, Lichfield,
Burntwood, Tamworth and Brownhills

* terms and conditions apply

**Hednesford Road
RUGELEY**



Deceptively spacious five/six bedroom detached house / Spacious five/six bedroom detached house / First floor annexe offering a further bedroom, lounge and kitchenette / Large rear garden /

£350,000

**2 Coach House Mews
RUGELEY**



Unique Grade II listed coach house / Winding driveway leading through open parkland / Allocated parking space with further space to front / Separate double garage / Communal rear courtyard

£319,500

**Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY**



Well presented four bedroom detached family home / Envious corner plot position at the end of a quiet & sought after cul-de-sac / Parking for several vehicles plus an adjoining double garage / Large

£300,000

**Newbury Road
NORTON CANES**



Four bedroom detached house / Set on a good sized corner plot / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen & bathrooms / Private rear garden

£300,000

**Gorsemoor Road
HEATH HAYES**



Immaculately presented and deceptively spacious four bedroom detached house / Set on large end plot / Generously extended on ground floor / Modern fitted high spec kitchen

£270,000

**Asquith Drive
HEATH HAYES**



Four bedroom detached house / Well established and sought after residential area / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / UPVC conservatory

£245,000

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£150,000	£3,240	£1,425	£1,815
£200,000	£4,320	£1,900	£2,420
£300,000	£6,480	£2,860	£3,630
£500,000	£10,800	£4,760	£6,050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @2.16% Inc VAT. Source: Rightmove (April 2017)






**Oak Woods
CANNOCK**



Immaculately presented three bedroom detached house / Stunning open plan living area with kitchen, diner and sitting area / Show house finish through out / Quiet cul-de-sac

£240,000

**Streets Lane
CHESLYN HAY**



Well presented and superbly maintained four bedroom detached family home / Sought after location / Superb spacious open plan lounge-diner / Integral garage and driveway

Offers in Excess of £230,000

**Truro Place
HEATH HAYES**



Well presented three bedroom detached family home / Private south west facing rear garden with recently laid patio area / Superb open plan kitchen-diner with new fitted kitchen (2 years old) / Spacious

£225,000

**Wade Lane
RUGELEY**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Set on good sized corner plot / Highly sought after area / Spacious lounge / Kitchen-diner / Good sized low maintenance rear garden

Offers in Excess of £210,000

**Walsall Road
BRIDGTOWN**



Spacious extended four bedroom detached house / Set on a large plot / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms / Large private rear garden which is not overlooked,

Offers in Excess of £210,000

**Pendle Hill
HEDNESFORD**



Well presented semi detached three bedroom house / Set over three storeys / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Private rear garden / Superb top floor master bedroom

£210,000

**Belt Road
HEDNESFORD**



Immaculately presented three bedroom detached family home / Set on a good sized corner plot / Recently undergone refurbishment / Superb open plan lounge-diner

Offers in Excess of £200,000

**Hobby Way
HEATH HAYES**



Immaculately presented three bedroom townhouse / Finished to an exceptionally high standard throughout / Set over three storeys / High spec fitted kitchen / Driveway for two vehicles and a detached garage

Offers in Excess of £200,000

**Stagborough Way
HEDNESFORD**



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Finished to great standard throughout / Good sized lounge & superb open plan kitchen-diner / Rear conservatory / Modern fitted bathroom

£180,000

**Hednesford Road
HEATH HAYES**



Extremely spacious three bedroom detached character property / Modern method of auction / Set on a large plot / Ideal for investors / Large rear garden stretching over 45 metres

Auction Guide Price £160,000

**The Brambles
NORTON CANES**



Two bedroom mid terraced house / Set back from the main road in a quiet residential area / Two allocated parking spaces / Lounge-diner / Modern finish / 2 Parking spaces

£140,000

**Elder Close
HEATH HAYES**



Two bedroom semi detached house / Set back from the road at the end of a private driveway / Spacious lounge and modern fitted kitchen-diner / Driveway for two vehicles / Good sized rear garden

Offers in Excess of £130,000

**Church View
BRERETON**



Charming two bedroom terraced cottage / Spacious lounge / Large double bedroom plus a further good sized single / Private rear courtyard / Off road parking

£120,000

**Frank Rogers Walk
RUGELEY**



Well presented one bedroom semi detached bungalow / Set back from the road in a quiet location / Double bedroom / Modern fitted shower room / Private rear garden

£100,000

**Uxbridge Street
HEDNESFORD**



Two bedroom end terraced property / Dining room & kitchen / Small rear courtyard with shed & fenced borders

Offers in Excess of £90,000

**Bettys Lane
NORTON CANES**



Well presented one bedroom first floor self contained maisonette / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Superb open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen, newly fitted bathroom / Double bedroom

Offers in Excess of £80,000

**Victoria Street
CHADSMOOR**



One bedroom maisonette / Situated on first floor / Completely renovated throughout / Enclosed rear garden / Access gate leading to front of property

Offers in the Region Of £69,950

**Arran Close
CANNOCK**



Two bedroom ground floor apartment / Property is being sold with a sitting tenant / Rental income of £495 PCM / Exciting investment opportunity / Spacious lounge

Offers in Excess of £67,000



Sales

Lettings

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Homes

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Beehive House, Hednesford

- EXCITING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
- RECENTLY REFURBISHED
- VIBRANT TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- SIX HIGH QUALITY APARTMENTS

- FREEHOLD INCLUDED
- ALL FULLY OCCUPIED
- NO CHAIN INVOLVED

£390,000



SHERBROOK ROAD, CANNOCK

- CORNER PLOT GARDENS
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- DOUBLE LENGTH GARAGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN

- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- POTENTIAL FOR EXTENSIONS
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- HUGE POTENTIAL

£315,000



Burgoyne Street, Cannock

- SPACIOUS FOUR BED DETACHED
- BATHROOM & TWO EN-SUITES
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN & CONSERVATORY

- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- ENCLOSED DRIVEWAY & GARDEN

£270,000



Turquoise Grove, Heath Hayes

- FOUR BEDROOMS
- ENSUITE & BATHROOM
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- GARAGE

- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- FRONT & REAR GARDEN
- CONSERVATORY
- MODERN KITCHEN

£255,000



BADGER CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

- THREE BED DETACHED HOUSE
- BATHROOM & DOWNSTAIRS WC
- LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM
- SOUTH FACING REAR GARDEN

- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LARGE MASTER BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE

£240,000



STAFFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- IMMACULATE SEMI DETACHED
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- LARGE DETACHED GARAGE AT REAR
- LARGE REAR GARDEN

- LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN CENTRE
- EN-SUITE OFF THE MASTER
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£160,000



MIDLAND ROAD, HUNTINGTON

- THREE GOOD SIZE BEDROOMS
- DUAL ASPECT LIVING ROOM
- GAS HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING
- OPEN PLAN KITCHEN DINER

- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY
- USEFUL OUTSIDE STOREROOM
- REFITTED BATHROOM SUITE

£140,000



WOOTTONS COURT, CANNOCK

- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN
- MODERN MID TERRACE
- ELECTRIC HEATING
- TWO BEDROOMS

- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- IDEAL INVESTMENT RENTAL £550pcm

£117,995



HEDNESFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- TRADITIONAL END TERRACE
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS

- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- KITCHEN & UTILITY

£110,000



ROMSLEY CLOSE, PELSALL

- FIRST FLOOR FLAT GOOD TENANT IN SITU
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- TWO GOOD SIZE BEDROOMS

- DOUBLE GLAZING
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- IDEAL READY MADE BUY-TO-LET
- COMMUNAL GARDENS

£83,750

FREE IN HOUSE INDEPENDANT MORTGAGE ADVISOR

- Remortgage
- First Time Buyer
- Moving Home
- Buy To Let



HERONDALE, HEDNESFORD

- GROUND FLOOR FLAT
- FULL DOUBLE GLAZING
- FITTED KITCHEN
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

- REFITTED BATHROOM
- DOUBLE BEDROOM WITH STORAGE
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LOCATED ON POPULAR ESTATE

£70,000



HEDNESFORD ROAD, HEATH HAYES

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



Bond Way, Hednesford

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



HARPERS COURT, HEATH HAYES

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



MAYCROFT CLOSE, HEDNESFORD

SOLD STC
Similar Properties Required



Balfour House, High Green

- Ground floor apartment
- Open plan kitchen / Lounge
- Double bedroom
- Shower room
- Town centre location
- Available now

£450pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Willowbrook Court, Hednesford

- First floor apartment
- Open plan kitchen / lounge
- One double bedroom
- Bathroom with shower over bath
- Allocated parking
- Available now.

£505pcm Sorry no dss & no pets



Beecroft Court, Cannock

- Brand new apartments
- Open plan kitchen/lounge
- Bathroom with shower over bath
- Furnished/unfurnished available
- Allocated parking
- Selection of apartments available

Prices starting from £525.00pcm



Hilton Road, Featherstone

- Semi detached home
- Kitchen / diner
- Large lounge
- Three bedrooms
- Garage & parking
- Available March 2018

£675pcm Sorry no DSS & no pets



Boney Hay Road, Burntwood

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Garden

£695pcm Sorry no dss and No pets



Stafford Lane, Hednesford

- Traditional semi detached home
- Kitchen / breakfast room with appliances
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom with shower over bath
- Garage and driveway
- Available May 2017

£750pcm Sorry no dss and no pets



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NEW

HUNTINGTON
STAG DRIVE





- Detached Family Home
- Through Hall, WC
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- 4 Bedrooms
- 2 En-Suites
- Gardens
- Viewing Essential

\$285,000

REDUCED

CANNOCK
STONE LEA ROAD



- Stunning Family Home
- Cannock Town Centre
- Hallway
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage

\$159,995

NEW

BURNTWOOD
PARK ROAD



- Sought After Location
- Extended & Refurbished
- Hallway, Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Detached Garage
- Viewing Essential

\$250,000

NEW

WIMBLEBURY
WATERMINT CLOSE



- Detached Family Home
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Kitchen
- 4 Bedrooms
- Bed 1 - En-Suite
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

\$250,000

NEW

HEDNESFORD
BAKERS WAY



SSTC
Similar Required

- Stunning Semi Detached
- Hallway, Guests WC
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory, Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage, Driveway
- Viewing Essential

\$185,000

NEW

CANNOCK
BATH ROAD



- Semi Detached
- Hallway
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Driveway
- No Chain

\$120,000 Offers Over

REDUCED

HEDNESFORD
GREENHEATH ROAD



- Modern Family Home
- Hallway, Guests WC
- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge
- 3 Bedrooms
- Ensuite
- Family Bathroom
- Driveway, Garage

\$190,000

REDUCED

HEDNESFORD
RAILWAY VIEW



- Spacious Detached
- 3 Storey
- Kitchen/Diner
- 4 Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Bed 1
- Det. Garage, Driveway
- Enclosed Rear Garden

\$240,000

"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"

on the move



CANNOCK ROAD, CANNOCK

NEW



- One Bed Flat
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS/PETS

£435 pcm

NEW STREET, BRIDGTOWN

NEW



- Two Bed Semi
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Shower Room
- Rear Garden
- GCH & DG

£475 pcm

PENKRIDGE COURT, CANNOCK

NEW



- Duplex Apartment
- Two Bed
- Kitchen/Diner
- En-Suite
- Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Energy Rating B
- NO DSS/PETS

£600 pcm

LOVATT PLACE, CANNOCK

NEW



- 3 Bed Semi
- Lounge/Diner
- GCH/DG
- Off Road Parking
- Gardens
- Energy rating D
- No DSS/Pets

£625 pcm

HOLLY LANE, CHESLYN HAY

NEW



- 4 Bed Detached
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Utility Room
- Garage
- Gardens
- Energy rating D
- Sorry No DSS/Pets

£1,350 pcm

SELL YOUR HOME FOR ONLY

£954

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OLD HEDNESFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

NEW



- A Fully Refurbished Detached Family Residence.
- Reception Hall, Guest WC, Lounge
- Impressive Kitchen/Diner, Utility

£349,950



- Spacious Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Four Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Integral Garage, Detached Garage, Driveway, Front, Side & Rear Gardens

TUTBURY CLOSE, HEATH HAYES

NO CHAIN



- An Extremely Well Presented Detached Bungalow positioned on a Corner Plot.
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Wet Room, Two Double

OIRO £249,950



- Bedrooms
- Conservatory, Landscaped Rear Garden
- Ample Block Paved Driveway
- No Chain

OIRO £249,950

KNIGHTON ROAD, WIMBLEDY

NO CHAIN



- A Well Presented Link Detached House
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen, Four Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- Garage & Driveway
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Open Aspect to Side & Rear
- No Upward Chain

£205,000

CHURCH ROAD, NORTON CANES



- Well Presented Detached Family Home
- Family Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Well Stocked Rear Garden With Open Views
- Driveway & Garage

OIRO £199,950

STATION COURT, CANNOCK



- A beautifully presented two bed SEMI-detached house
- Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge/Diner
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Two Allocated Parking
- Guest WC, Modern Location

£153,000

COPPERKINS ROAD, HEDNESFORD

NEW



- A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Porch, Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room
- Workshop
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Rear Garden & Gravel Parking to front

£149,995

WALNUT DRIVE, CANNOCK

NEW



- A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House with NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Kitchen/ Diner
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Driveway, Carport & Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens

£135,000

GREIG COURT, HEATH HAYES



- A Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Modern Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces, Delightful Rear Garden

£129,950

WRENS CROFT, HEATH HAYES



- A Well Presented Semi Detached House
- Popular Residential Location
- Overlooking Nature Reserve
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite, Family Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces
- Rear Garden

OIRO £189,950

ELIZABETH ROAD, CANNOCK

NEW



- A Beautifully Presented Three Storey Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Guest WC
- Modern Kitchen, Spacious Lounge/Diner
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Two En-Suites, Family Bathroom
- Delightful Rear Garden
- Driveway & Car Barn

£179,995

UNION STREET, BRIDGTOWN



- Well presented ground floor apartment
- Lounge/Diner, 2 Double bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen
- En-suite & Bathroom
- Off road parking
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

OIRO £100,000

VINE COURT, CANNOCK

NO CHAIN



- Third floor retirement apartment
- Wide range of facilities within the complex
- Security intercom, Lift access
- £25,000 25% Shared Ownership
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms and wet room
- 24 hour care on hand
- NO UPWARD CHAIN



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17 Upper Brook Street, Rugeley, Staffs



Timbertops The Pingle Slitting Mill Rugeley
A Three/Four Bedroom Detached Dormer Bungalow

- Occupying approx. quarter of an acre plot
- Oil fuelled central heating
- Double Glazing
- Large Driveway
- Gardens with spectacular views

£395,000



Watson Close, Rugeley

A 3 Bedroom semi-detached House

- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- 3 Bedrooms
- Kitchen, Bathroom
- Front and rear enclosed gardens

£139,950



Burnthill Lane Rugeley

A Four Bedroom Executive Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- Dining Room
- Integral Garage

£245,000



Ti-Arwil, Keystone Lane, Rugeley
Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Part Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens & Driveway Parking
- Single Car Garage & Outside W.C

£159,500

**More Properties
URGENTLY
REQUIRED
Rugeley and
Surrounding
Areas**



Old Eaton Road, Rugeley

Two Bedroom Corner Position Detached Position

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- 2 Bedrooms, Living Room
- Kitchen, Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Gardens & Driveway

£235,000

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Hednesford Road - Commercial Property
A Ground Floor Retail Unit

- Main Road Frontage
- Total retail floor area 33.5sqm
- Kitchenette
- Toilet
- Subsidiary area to rear

£7250PA

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Redmond Close, Etching Hill, Rugeley
A 3 Bedroom Detached House

- UPVC Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Conservatory
- Utility Area
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Driveway for Parking

£625 PCM



Sheep Fair, Rugeley

A Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Integrated Kitchen Appliances
- Conservatory
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Gated Parking

£650 PCM



Fernwood Drive Rugeley

A Two Bedroom End Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Ground Floor WC
- Allocated Car Parking Space
- Fully Enclosed Rear Garden

£525PCM



Sheep Fair, Rugeley

A 1 Bedroom 2nd Floor Flat

- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Kitchenette
- Bedroom with built in wardrobe
- Bathroom

£400 PCM

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**HEATH HAYES
STRAUSS DRIVE**



- A spacious four bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen, dining room
- Utility, guest cloakroom
- Master with ensuite
- Shower room
- Garden to rear, driveway
- EPC rating C

£220,000 offers in excess of

**HEATH HAYES
STAFFORD STREET**



- A much improved three bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Awaiting EPC rating

£159,950

**HEDNESFORD
STEPHENSON WAY**



- A modern two bedroom apartment
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Allocated parking
- Ideal first time buy
- Ideal investment
- Awaiting EPC rating

£83,000 offers in excess of

**HEATH HAYES
CANNOCK ROAD**



- A traditional detached property
- Entrance hallway/study area
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Utility, Guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear off road parking
- EPC rating E

£260,000

**CANNOCK
RUMER HILL ROAD**



- A spacious 3 bedroom detached
- Split level lounge/diner, Kitchen/diner
- Guest cloakroom, utility
- Sitting room and conservatory
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, garage, driveway
- NO CHAIN
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000 Offers Over

**HEDNESFORD
CHAFFINCH CLOSE**



- A two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Conservatory, carport
- Garden to rear and side
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£169,950

**CANNOCK
BERWICK DRIVE**



- A three bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating
- Lounge/diner
- Conservatory, kitchen
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Good sized rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£129,950

**CANNOCK
REDHILL ROAD**



- One Bedroom
- Central heating
- Driveway, gated access
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating
- NO CHAIN

£124,995

**CANNOCK
ST AIDANS ROAD**



- A two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to front
- Corner plot
- Enclosed rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£124,950

**CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD**



- Two bedroom Terraced
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Off road parking, garage
- Town centre location
- Rear Garden
- EPC rating E

£135,000

**HEATH HAYES
SALISBURY DRIVE**



- A three bedroom detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Entrance hallway
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garage, gardens, driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£235,950

**CANNOCK
MANOR AVENUE**



- Spacious three bedroom detached
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room, cloakroom
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating

£242,000

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MOTORING

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO THE
BEST CARS ON
THE MARKET

Fine ride and comfort will win friends

By Ian Donaldson

Hallelujah! A car maker has produced an affordable car that majors on comfort, won't set a lap record round a race track and is not – ever – described as 'sporty'.

For goodness sake, it doesn't even have a rev counter (when did you last look at yours?) and the suspension has 20 patents applied for and has one aim in life; to smooth away the bumpy horrors beneath the tyres.

So, the new Citroën C4 Cactus starts off on the right foot by simply being different to a slew of rivals all seemingly designed by hotheads who would really rather be Lewis Hamilton.

Then you discover that Citroën has added soundproofing to the car and made the rear screen thicker, all in the hunt for a quieter life on board. And still the car weighs less than its rivals, to the benefit of economy and emissions.

Upmarket

All this extra attention has been paid to a car that's basically been around since 2014, when its standout feature was the big wedges of plastic padding along the flanks – Airbumps in Citroënspeak – with back-up protection on the car's extremities.

Well, they've been toned down drastically for the new C4 Cactus (vestiges can still be spotted on the car's lower portions) as its maker attempts to add an upmarket feel to something they must have felt looked a bit too simply basic before.

In the process an impressive 90 per cent of what you see is new, from a wider look to the front and rear and a choice of nine body colours and four colour packs that let you add touches of black, white, red or silver to front fog light trim and the reduced Airbump panels.

Inside, the old C4 Cactus's feel of more lounge than car continues and still looks as pleasantly different as ever, with four distinct styles on offer, all of them applied also to new seats that Citroën calls Advanced Comfort but which are really more the old ones with added padding – and comfy with it.

Deeper thought is applied to the suspension, often a talking point in older and now defunct Citroën models. The new set-up is simpler than those but introduces welcome new thinking, with shock absorbers that do away with rubber bump stops and use extra hydraulic cushions at the extremities of suspension travel.

And it works. Within a few metres of setting



The new Citroën C4 Cactus starts off on the right foot by simply being different to a slew of rivals all seemingly designed by hotheads

off you sense the new C4 Cactus is working hard on your behalf to isolate you and your passengers from the jolts and ridges that make up a modern road. It's not the magic carpet ride Citroën boasts about, but it is instantly and continually more comfortable than its rivals.

The car is a little shorter than, say, a VW Golf and has enough but hardly generous room in the rear seat. Boot capacity is good enough not to be a talking point either.

Buy the cheapest new C4 Cactus – the £17,265 Feel Edition and you won't have the clever suspension. You also won't have much performance (105mph 13.1 seconds to 62mph) with a 1.2 litre non-turbo 81bhp petrol engine doing the work.

Economy and emissions (61.4mpg combined and 105g/km) are respectable but it's little wonder Citroën thinks the most popular newcomer will be dearer and perkier, in the shape of the £19,865 108bhp petrol model in Flair trim.

Its performance and economy (117mph, 9.4 seconds, 65.7mpg, 100g/km) make a convincing case for this as the sweet spot of the new range, coming with the clever suspension and a range of standard kit from sat nav and 17ins alloys to automatic air conditioning, big glass sunroof and active safety braking.

Second least expensive of the new range is a Feel trimmed car (with the Feel Edition as entry level come-on), with prices from £17,965 and

standard kit that includes 16ins alloy wheels, DAB radio, air conditioning, cruise control and a space saver spare wheel.

As well as the 82 and 100 (metric) horsepower engines there's a 130 horsepower version and a 100 hp diesel and the 110 model can be had with an automatic transmission (£21,165).

Out on a mix of UK roads, the 130 hp C4 Cactus impressed with a surprising turn of speed (and the pleasant thrum of a three-cylinder engine) and 49.5mpg on the trip computer suggests an economical life in the real world, where the car's fine ride and emphasis on comfort are going to win it many friends.

Japanese manufacturer dominates



Toyota's C-HR is good value-for-money

Toyota and Lexus dominate a list of 10 best depreciation-busting hybrids.

Automotive data experts have analysed the price of a range of hybrids to find which models lose the least money after one year of ownership.

Buyers looking for a good value-for-money hybrid should opt for a Toyota C-HR, according to automotive data experts Cap HPI.

The funky-styled crossover, which was introduced late in 2016, topped a list of 10 depreciation-busting electrified vehicles, which looked at the price for new compared with the value after one year and 10,000 miles.

According to Cap HPI, the C-HR retains 84.5 per cent in this time, losing about £4,000 from its average new price of £26,301.

The list is dominated by Japanese sister companies Toyota and Lexus, which take six of the 10 spots. Behind the C-HR in second place is the Lexus NX SUV, which retains 79.5 per cent of its average new price of £38,976, while close behind in third is the Toyota Prius+, which holds 78.6 per cent of its £29,688 price.

Cars from the Japanese manufacturers were also in fifth (Toyota Rav4, 77.4 per cent), seventh (Toyota Prius, 76.6 per cent), and ninth (Lexus IS, 74.4 per cent).

Other vehicles were the Suzuki Ignis in fourth for retaining 78.3 per cent of its £13,444 price, and the Kia Niro in sixth and eighth for holding between 77.2 and 74.8 per cent of its value, depending on the model. The Hyundai Ioniq dropped up the list, retaining 74.1 per cent of its £21,740 purchase price.

New Ford Fiesta ST gets package of the latest technology



Ford has revealed that the new Fiesta ST will get a limited-slip differential and a newly patented suspension technology as it fights to outperform its much-loved predecessor.

The previous generation hot supermini was widely regarded by the motoring press to be one of the best affordable drivers' cars on the market while on sale between 2013 and 2017, so the updated version has been eagerly anticipated – and Ford is clearly not pulling any punches when it comes to surpassing the old model.

An optional mechanical limited-slip differential (LSD) will be offered on the new ST, which will help to tame the power going through the front wheels, providing more grip when accelerating, particularly out of corners.

The system is common on larger, more expensive

hot hatches, but is incredibly rare in the fast supermini segment. Ford says it works in tandem with the company's 'torque vectoring control' system, which uses the brakes to slow the inside wheel in corners to reduce understeer.

Leo Roeks, European Ford performance director, said: "Performance car drivers will be familiar with the dreaded 'one-wheel peel', where a fast corner exit is hampered by an overload of torque to the inside wheel.

"We've tuned the all-new Fiesta ST's mechanical LSD option to work seamlessly with enhanced torque vectoring control to deliver the best possible natural traction without 'burning away' excess torque with brake interventions."

Ford has also created a new rear suspension set-up, which it calls 'force vectoring springs'. The American

car manufacturer says the technology stabilises the back of the car and provides better lateral stiffness, resulting in sharper turn-in without any compromise on comfort. The springs are 10kg lighter than the standard set-up, too.

Under the bonnet sits a 1.5-litre three-cylinder petrol engine making 197bhp and 250Nm of torque.

To make the most of the performance, the Fiesta ST gets a new launch control system, resulting in a 0-60mph time of 6.5 seconds, while the top speed is 144mph.

Ford is yet to confirm the price of the new Fiesta ST, but expect it to approach £19,000 for the entry-level model on account of the heavy investment that's gone into outclassing the old version, which topped out at around £18,000 in ST-3 guise.

Deliveries are expected to begin in late spring.

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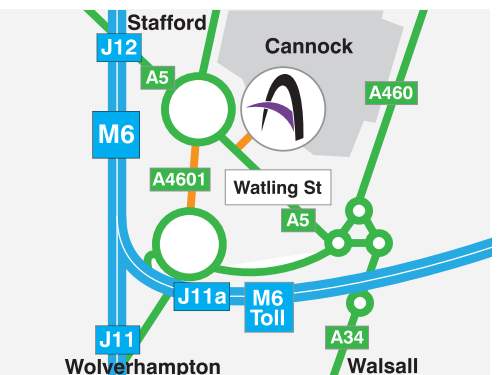
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Skoda scoops another two awards

Škoda continues to go from strength to strength in the fleet arena with a duo of awards added to the trophy cabinet.

The Škoda Superb retained its title of Best Upper Medium Car for the third year running whilst new-comer, the Karoq, entered the fleet sector in style picking up the title of Best Mid-size SUV.

The Fleet News Awards, now in its 30th year – seen as the ‘Oscars’ of the fleet awards’ calendar – recognises class-leading businesses, cars and individuals within the sector.

Škoda continued its winning ways on the 2018 awards night, after the Škoda Superb was named 'Best Upper Medium Car' by the industry experts for the third year running.

In one of the most competitive categories, the Superb stood out for its excellent value-for-money, technology, comfort and desirability.

The all-new Škoda Karoq won its first UK award, scooping the highly-desired accolade 'Best Mid-size SUV'. From small businesses to corporate fleets, the Karoq offers a host of technology and driver assistance systems at their fingertips.

The latest addition to the model line-up sets the standard for driver connectivity with features that include Amundsen satellite navigation with an eight-inch touchscreen display with European mapping, voice control and integrated Wi-Fi.

Henry Williams, Head of Fleet for Škoda



The Karoq entered the fleet sector in style picking up Best Mid-size SUV

UK, commented: "The Superb is a beautifully designed vehicle that offers luxury driving for fleets at excellent value that can't be beaten and we are delighted that it has picked up this award for the second year running."

"These awards showcase the strength of our current model line-up and the competitive package that we offer business customers." The Skoda Superb Estate SE Tech 2.0 TDI 150PS offers whole-life cost advantages and



Škoda's Superb was named Best Upper Medium Car for the third year running

competitive servicing costs and is available with a BIK rate of 24 per cent and P11D of £25,230.

The all-new Škoda Karoq has been launched with an SE Tech trim exclusively

designed for fleets to offer greater value for money: the SE Tech 1.5 TSI 150PS DSG has a P11D of £23,310 and a BIK rate of 24 per cent.

For more information about Škoda fleet, visit: www.skoda.co.uk/fleet

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Cupra now manufacturer in own right

By James Parker

The new Cupra Ateca has been revealed as the first car to come from Seat's performance division since it became its own separate manufacturer.

The Cupra badge has traditionally been used for Seat's go-faster models, but it was revealed last year that it would split off as a separate brand. Its remit is to build performance versions of Seat's cars, though without any Seat badging, and to run Seat's motorsport division.

Impressive

Its first car is the Cupra Ateca, a high-performance mid-sized SUV. Under the bonnet sits a 2.0-litre petrol engine making 296bhp, which is shared with the Seat Leon Cupra and various other Volkswagen Group vehicles such as the Golf R.

Performance is impressive for what is a large car, with the 0-60mph sprint taking 5.2 seconds and a top speed registered at 152mph.

The engine's mated to a seven-speed DSG automatic gearbox, which Cupra says has been engineered to offer quicker and smoother changes.

Power goes to all four wheels, and there are six drive modes to choose from – Cupra mode is for fast driving, improving engine response and volume, and stiffening the suspension.

On the outside, the regular Ateca has been given a mild reworking to give a sportier look, with a new body kit, black brake callipers, quad-exit exhaust and 19-inch diamond-cut



Inside Alcantara is used as a trim finish



Performance is impressive for what is a large car

alloy wheels. The new Cupra logo, which is designed to look like a tribal drawing, is present in copper at the front, back and on the wheels.

Inside, Alcantara is used on the door panels and seat upholstery, the steering wheel is covered in leather, and various trim pieces are

finished in gloss black. Copper Cupra logos are again used throughout.

Matthias Rabe, executive vice-president for research and development at Seat, said: "Cupra Ateca offers versatility like no other brand."

"It's about a unique model in its segment,



The Cupra badge has been used for Seat's go-faster models, but it was revealed last year it be a separate brand

with 296bhp, 4Drive and a new seven-speed DSG gearbox.

"It is the best example of balance between sportsmanship, fun at the wheel and ease of use in everyday life."

The Cupra brand has an aggressive growth strategy. At the Ateca's launch in Barcelona,

it revealed that it was working on hot versions of the Cupra hatchback and estate, and was taking over the Cupra TCR racing programme.

Cupra versions of the Ibiza and Arona are potentially in the works, as well as three as-yet unconfirmed models, which could take the range to 10 by the end of 2018.

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MOTORING

Peugeot's all-new family car, the 508, is revealed

The all-new Peugeot 508 has been revealed, replacing the old saloon with a five-door 'fastback' version.

In a segment that's struggling against the popularity of SUVs, the 508 hopes to tempt buyers with coupe-like styling and five-door practicality. The 487-litre boot is slightly bigger than the old model but considerably less than some rivals' offerings, such as the 586 litres available in the boot of a Volkswagen Passat.

Design

On the outside, there's a fresh look for the 508, which gets a sharp interpretation of Peugeot's familiar design language. There are hints of the stunning shooting brake concept the firm took to the Geneva Motor Show last year, with similar vertical LED daytime running lights, narrow headlights, and LED ear lights integrated into a black bar that runs the width of the car.

Inside, the mix of a premium feel and funky, modern design that's become a hallmark of modern Peugeots is present and correct. The new 508 gets the company's latest i-Cockpit features, including a leather-trimmed steering wheel, 10-inch capacitive touchscreen in the centre console, and 12.3-inch instrument panel.

Night vision is a newly added driver assistance feature, which is displayed



There's a fresh look for the 508

in the instrument binnacle to highlight pedestrians and other obstacles when driving at night or in poor visibility.

Jean-Philippe Imparato, chief executive of Peugeot, said: "The all-new Peugeot 508 is finally here.

"After the success of our latest high-profile launches and our SUV offensive with the multi-award-winning Peugeot 2008 SUV, 3008 SUV and all-new 5008 SUV, with the all-new Peugeot 508 we carry the exact same ambition: to shake up the market with an outstanding new car that can compete with the best.

"And for the D-segment we

are talking about the best car manufacturers in the world. The all-new Peugeot 508 is a perfect example of the ambition that we embody in everything that we do, continuing to establish Peugeot as the best 'high-end generalist' car manufacturer in the market."

Pricing has yet to be revealed, but expect the entry-level model to start at about £26,000 – a fraction more than the outgoing model.

The new Peugeot 508 made its public debut at the Geneva Motor Show this week and will be available to order from the summer.

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Vauxhall confirms Corsa EV for 2020

by Tristan Shale-Hester

Vauxhall has confirmed that it will launch an electric version of its Corsa hatchback in 2020.

The electric Corsa, which will be Vauxhall's first all-electric car, is going to be based on the next generation 2019 model.

PSA Group, made up of Peugeot, Citroen and DS, bought Vauxhall and Opel last year.

The new Corsa will be the British marque's first new car under French ownership and will be built on PSA's CMP platform.

Technology

Fellow PSA Group brand DS is working on a hybrid version of its DS 7 Crossback, so it's likely that technology developed for that project will be used in the new Corsa EV.

Following the launch of the Corsa EV, at least four more electrified Vauxhalls will be launched before 2024.

A number of Vauxhall models, including the Astra, Grand Sport and Insignia, have been altered with PSA technology to reduce their CO2 emissions, so electric models are the logical next step for the brand.

The news provides some certainty about the future of Vauxhall, as there have been concerns over the state of the brand since it was purchased by PSA Group, especially with regards to its Ellesmere Port factory in Cheshire.



The electric Corsa will be the brand's first all-electric car

At present, the Corsa is Vauxhall's best-selling car. Last month, 2,587 new examples of the hatchback were registered in the United Kingdom, placing it as the eighth best performing model overall for January 2018.

The Vauxhall Corsa was also the fifth best-selling new car in the UK in 2017 with 52,772 sales, but that achievement pales in comparison to 2016, when it won second place with 77,110 examples sold.

The Corsa was first introduced to the UK market in 1993 and is celebrating its 25th birthday this year. To celebrate, Vauxhall is offering one year's free insurance and five year's zero per cent flexible finance with not minimum deposit to new buyers of Energy and Limited Edition models aged 21 to 75.



Fellow PSA Group brand DS is working on a hybrid version of its DS 7 Crossback, so it's likely that technology developed for that project will be used in the new Corsa EV

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Also at PELSALL: 01922 685999
and COSELEY: 01902 884881
Here for you - 24 hours a day!

Part of Tamworth Co-operative Society Ltd. Not connected with any other business in the area.

Deaths

BRITTLE

Edith May Jane
nee Hawkins

Passed away suddenly on
Mothering Sunday, aged
77 years.

Sadly missed by her Husband
Bill, Daughters, Grand
children, Family and
Friends.

Funeral Service will take
place at Stafford Cremato-
rium, on Tuesday, March 27,
2018, at 12.30pm.

Flowers welcome.

Further inquiries to

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

CLARE

Barbara Elizabeth May

Sadly passed away, Saturday,
March 3, 2018, aged 70 years.

Barbara was much loved and
will be sadly missed by all her
Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service is to
be held on Wednesday, March
28 at 1.30pm, at Bushbury
Crematorium, West Chapel.

It was Barbara's wish that no
black was to be worn.

All flowers welcome.

Donations, if so desired, for
Parkinson's UK.

All inquiries to

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
79 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1JH
01543 502322

CLARE

Barbara

Sister

In the garden of beautiful
memories, where leaves fall
like dew.

There's a rose that blooms
forever, in memory of you.

All our love Jacqueline, Dave,
Nephew Chris, Niece Sarah
and Families.

X X X

CLIFT

Jean

Peacefully passed away at
home on Wednesday, March 7,
2018, aged 84 years.

The Funeral Service will take
place on Wednesday, April 4,
at St Mark's Church, Great
Wyrley at 1.30pm, followed by
the Burial in Willenhall Lawn
Cemetery.

Floral tributes welcome or
donations if desired to Cancer
Research UK.

All inquiries to:

CO-OPERATIVE

FUNERALCARE

Bloxwich.

Telephone 01922 403399.

LYCETT

Gill

Of Huntington.

Passed away in hospital on
March 12, 2018, aged
64 years.

A beloved Mom, Nan, Sister,
Auntie and Friend.

Will be deeply missed by all.

All Funeral details from
Funeral directors.

The Funeral care has been
entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

MORGAN
Philippe Kenneth
Passed away on February 23,
2018.
Funeral Service on Thursday,
March 29, 2018, at Stafford
Crematorium at 11.30am.
Family flowers only.
Donations forwarded to
Epilepsy Society c/o
CO-OPERATIVE
FUNERAL SERVICE
49 Park Road
Cannock
Telephone 01543 572644

ROGERS

Leslie Thomas

(Les)

Of Cannock.

Sadly passed away in
Hospital on March 10, 2018,
aged 70 years.

Les was much loved and will
be dearly missed by all his
Family and Friends.

Service will be held on
Wednesday, April 4, at 2pm,
Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only.

Donations if desired for CASS
Carers Association, c/o
Funeral Directors

The funeral care has been
entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

Acknowledgements

BAKER

William

(Ernie)

Ernie's Family would like
to thank everyone who
attended his Funeral at
Stafford Crematorium on
Tuesday, March 13, for their
kindness, support and cards
received at this very sad time.

Generous donations of £400,
will be sent to RNLI and
Children with Cancer.

The Family wish to thank all
the Staff at Hawksyard Priory
Nursing Home for their care
while Ernie was with them.

Special thanks to Ralph and
all the Staff at AJ Sellman
Funeral Directors

TOWNSEND

Kathleen Mary

Passed away peacefully on
Saturday, March 3, 2018, aged
91 years.

Kathleen was much loved and
will be missed dearly by all of
her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take
place on Thursday, March 29,
2018, at St John's Church,
Heath Hayes at 10.30am. Fol-
lowed by a Burial at Cannock
Cemetery.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired, for
Cystic Fibrosis.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
79 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1JH
01543 502322

Family ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERE TO SHARE
YOUR TODAYS,
TOMORROWS AND
YESTERDAYS

Whether you're celebrating a special
occasion or remembering a loved one -
we're here to help.

Just call us on 01902 317878

Our lines are open between 8.30am and
5.30pm Monday to Friday.
Closed Saturdays and
Bank Holidays

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- Before 4.00pm Monday to Friday for the next day's edition.
- Before 4.30pm Friday for Monday.
- Subject to change Bank Holidays

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2 Leisure Time

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ALL SPARES & ACCESSORIES
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Simply the best
Ring Dave on
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458 Stafford Road, Oxley,
Wolverhampton

Car Boot Sales

BEST WEDNESDAY BOOTSALE
10am Boat Lane, Muckle Corner,
Lichfield WS14 0BU
07890 267 041

BEST SUNDAY BOOTSALE
Back at Cocksparrow Lane,
Huntington, Cannock, WS12 4PB
Sellers £5
07890 267 041

QUALITY INDOOR BOOT SALE
Pettall Community Centre,
Station Road, WS3 4BQ,
Sunday, March 25th.
9am - 1pm

FREE ENTRY
Call Dawn 07973 705739
to book a table.

Caravans/
Motorhomes

ELDDIS CRUSADER, 2010. Top of the range Elddis Crusader Super Cyclone, 4 berth, fixed twin beds. Twin axle. £10,950. 07454 449272.

STERLING ECCLES MOONSTONE 2009 MODEL. Immaculate. Motor mover, alarm, Alko hitch lock and wheel lock, full awning, porch awning, built in m/wave, radio, new heavy duty battery, extras. £9,000 ono. 07703 190445.

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MONDAY & FRIDAY DEPARTURES

DEPARTURES: APRIL-MAY-JUNE-JULY-AUG-SEPT-OCT
10 DAYS/7 NIGHTS
HALF BOARD ALL INCLUSIVE
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holidays

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SEA SIDE SOMERSET HOLIDAY caravans to let, all overlook the sea. Half price OAP offer. 01984631781 www.helwellbay.com

TOWYN N. WALES, Caravans to let, small site, good rates, all facilities 01745 334897 or 07766 306230.

Caravan Parks

NEW & USED STATIC CARAVANS for sale on award winning Country Holiday Park on the Staffordshire / Shropshire border. For details call 01902 851 302 www.oaklandholidaypark.co.uk

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PAIGNTON The Kingswinford
April Offers
2 nights, 2 people B&B only £109
or 2 nights room only, £89
Room only available
FAMILY ROOMS AVAILABLE
CHILD DISCOUNTS
All rooms en suite
100 yards to beach and pier
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www.kingswinfordhotel.com

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Pet Friendly
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www.GoSomerset.co.uk

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READERS ARE REMINDED to check with any Advertiser that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

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YORKSHIRE DALES
Meadow Holidays
Country Cottages / Suites in Wensleydale
"Weeks from £209 per couple"
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Families Welcome
Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or visit historic market towns with friendly inns
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mind, body & soul

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THE TANNING ROOMS
Full body massage 30 mins £22,
40 mins £27, 1 hour £37
SHOWER FACILITIES
Call: 01902 782960

3 Home & Services

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CONSERVATORY SUITE, 3 piece, including foot stool, excellent condition, £300 ono. 07718 529152.

Furniture not sold, why not donate it?
We can turn your quality used furniture into 1st class care for patients at Katharine House
Call us now on 01543 466885
for details or to arrange a FREE collection

LEATHER SUITE modern, 3-2-1 combination, coffee colour, incl matching table, stool. Very good condition. £350. 01543 571604.

LEATHER THREE PIECE suite, 2 sofas, reclining armchair, brown, leather, Italian made, Nutuzzi. £175 ono. 07944 710824.

Household Appliances

AUTOMATIC WASHING Machine, excellent condition. £95. May deliver. Call 07459 318294.

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C B SHEDS & FENCING
We supply & fit. Free quotes. Call: 01922 720270
We also supply sleepers and decking
CHESTNUT SHEDS AND FENCING LTD
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www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk

SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN FACED, only £1.87 inc. VAT.
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Louis Taylor
Fine Art Auctioneers & Valuers
Antique valuations first
Wednesday of every month, 10am - 2pm
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01782 638100

ANTIQUES WANTED
Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Old wind-up Wrist and Pocket Watches
Paintings, Gold/Silver/Costume Jewellery
CHAS ANTIQUES
(Over 40 Years Trading)
01543 572367 07831 818024

Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

CORRUGATED GALVANISED Sheets. New. £8 can deliver. Also box profile and PVC/polycarb. David Buxton on 07834 489558.

EKCO HOSTESS TROLLEY good condition, 4 pirex dishes with stainless steel lids. £55 ono. Rumpo!, never used. £10. 01543 675369.

CASH PAID £300+ PER OUNCE FOR 9 CARAT GOLD. ANY AMOUNT COLLECTED! Lady Buyer
gold coins, pre - 47 silver coins, watches, costume jewellery, porcelain, any oriental items, old brass items, any silver items, War medals military etc.
HOUSE CLEARANCES!
Call: 01922 495066 or 07971 783206

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement yet? We would respect- fully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Items Wanted

CASH PAID NOW! WANTED TOOLS
Hand Tools, Anything considered
01543 452 491
07539 340307

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID for antiques, vintage furniture, leather-winged arm chairs & chesterfield settees.
01902 454144 or 0121 5263375

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

WANTED VINTAGE TOYS
Star Wars, He-Man, Ghost Busters, Ninja Turtles, Corgi or Dinky.

All vintage toys considered. Good prices paid.

Unleash the cash in your loft. Call Tony on 07812 903338.

Loans

READERS ARE REMINDED that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

specialists at your service

Aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99
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Steve - AA Digital Aerials

For great business results call
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Brought to you by Express & Star

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Supplied and Fitted £249
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

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A SAME DAY REPAIR - Cookers, Autos, Fridges, Vacuums and Micros. Call 07900 578897 / 07801 746853.

Building Services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
All Building & Roofing Work
Driveways, Landscaping
Over 40 year exp | All work guaranteed
Free Quotes: 07837 994465
01902 579 592

Building Supplies

RECLAIMED BRICKS, Tiles, Slates, Oakbeams, Flooring, York Stone. Cawarden 01889 574066. sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk

Carpet Fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLs supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820599 / 07941 619694.

Double Glazing Repairs

S.P.S. replace misted glass, locks, hinges, windows, doors, guaranteed. OAP discount. 07983 704889

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RENDER OR INSULATION 20 year insurance backed guarantee. Free Quotes 01902 495 699 www.ecotonecontracts.co.uk

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PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards. £695
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
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Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, Wbury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

BUSHBURY FENCING AND GATES
SUPPLY AND FITTING
SPECIALISTS
FREE QUOTES
01902 827000

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."

Michael - Portway Fencing

For great business results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
Brought to you by Express & Star

GARDEN KINGS

All Garden work and maintenance, Fencing, Tree Cutting, Turfing and much more
Call: Steve for free quote
07774449900 / 01902 238653

Gardening Services

Landywood Tree & Landscaping Services
All garden work, tree felling/lopping, pruning, hedges trimmed, turf, patios, fencing, block-paving etc.
www.landywoodlandscaping.co.uk
01922 898 710 / 07973 177 976

Gas Fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

Guttering

RAYDON PROPERTY SERVICES
No Job Too Small
Free Quotes
GUTTERS & FASCIAS / GUTTER CLEANING
ALL GARDEN WORK UNDERTAKEN
T: 01902 655578 | M: 07954 607991

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RTD Builders & Home Improvements
• All general building work
• Extensions & alterations • Kitchens & Bathrooms • UPVC Windows
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davisr@gmail.com

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THE KITCHEN FITTER
• Over 20 years' experience in kitchen fitting & project managing.
• Specialist in fitting all retail kitchens.
• Very competitive price.
• Quick quotes over the phone can be given if preferred.
• Supply now available!
CONTACT MATT
ON 07881 654 757 or 01543 373 233

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A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021

ALL ROUND CLEARANCE
Professional family run business
House clearances full or part, also garages, sheds etc.
Telephone Kev
07794 912844

Painters/Decorators

DECORACE Painter & Decorator. Quality work at reasonable prices. OAP discounts. Free quotes: 01902 635258 07876 135302.

LADY PAINTER & DECORATOR City and guild qualified, local, reliable, affordable. 07916 399490.

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ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

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MINT PLASTERING
For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200
30 years experience.
Free quotes. All work guaranteed
01543 327130 / 07519 694516

M&S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES
Home Garden Improvements.
Over 30 Years Experience
Mark or Sara: 07741 770897

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TAD PLUMBING & HEATING
For all your plumbing needs.
30 years experience
24 HOUR CALL OUT, NO FEE!
Call Trevor on 07791 313937
www.tadplumbingandheatingwolverhampton.co.uk

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PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN
No job too small or large. Call Will for a free quote on: 07521 411108.

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KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
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www.mrbupholstery.co.uk
01543 500677 07738 851601

4 Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

Guns & Dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

Pets Corner

NOTICE TO READERS Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

5 Business & Farming

Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

6 Property

Accommodation To Let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

STUDIO FLAT fully furnished, private parking, all inc. near Hospital, low rent. 07828 504083.

THREE BED FLAT Rushall, nr Watnall, available now. DSS welcome. 07443 917182.

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

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You agree the price, we buy the house...

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01384 500 500 **30 yrs**

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Yes! HOMEBUYERS

We will buy your house fast!

- Free Valuation? Yes! Any House? Yes!
 - Fast Sale? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
 - No Fees? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!
- FREE, GUARANTEED, instant offer today!**

Call 01543 547 807
or text "Cash" to 66777
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We buy houses
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No estate agent fees
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ACT NOW!
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SELL IT LOCAL
01902 317878

Classified Ads

8
Motoring

Cars Over £1500

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.



FIAT 500 DIESEL BY DESIGN
(model not fuel)
2011, 55,600 miles, Diesel green metallic, EV, stop/start, AC, Bluetooth, usb, glass roof, CD player, CL, MOT, 1 previous owner, alloys, tinted rear windows, spare wheel, tool kit, fsh.
£4,800 o.n.o
07918 621300 (no text)

EXCELLENT CONDITION
FORD FIESTA
58 PLATE, 1.4 TDCI ZETEC
blue edition, metallic black.
65,000 miles, MoT Jan 2019.
Serviced, £30 per year road tax.
Lady owner.
Excellent condition.
£2,999.
07988 837407.

Courses

BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 May (also 5-6 Sept.)
WOLVERHAMPTON: 25-26 July (also 17-18 Nov.)
STOKE-ON-TRENT: 6-7 August TELFORD: 8-9 August

Learn how to take blood
TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

Introduction to Phlebotomy
TWO DAY COURSE - NATIONALLY RECOGNISED

- Allied Healthcare Career Path
- Accredited (advanced) qualification
- No previous experience required

For more info, or to book online: **www.geopace.com**

High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

Full Time General



HYUNDAI I10 1.2 ACTIVE
2011, 36,000 miles, 5 door, grey, electric windows, air bag, air con, fsh, long MoT, metallic paint, central locking, one owner, alloys, stereo, CD.
£3,450.
01543 278695.

EXCELLENT CONDITION
JAGUAR X TYPE

2.0 Diesel
2005, silver, full leather, heated front seats, Jag fitted sat nav and 6 CD player, cruise control, EW, CL, rear parking sensors, FSH, beautiful drive at 48mpg, MoT October 18, 129,053 miles, only 303 miles since last MoT, reluctant sale due to health reasons
£1,650
07885 137429.



MINI COOPER 1.6L
2010, 26,300 miles, green, MoT to April 5, 2019, electric windows, electric mirrors, central locking, alloys, CD.
£5,500.
07984 550263.

BARGAIN
ROVER P6 V8
1972 automatic. Solid car, good engine and gearbox, lots of time spent on it. Needs petrol pump. Easy project.
£1,550 ono
07455 255455

Cars Under £1500



FORD FIESTA 1242CC
1999, Zetec, MoT November 2018, 3Dr, petrol, central locking, ideal first car.
£375 o.n.o.
07722 887933
Walsall.

MNA Media

SENIOR REPORTERS

The Express and Star is looking for Senior Reporters to join the news team of one of Britain's biggest selling regional newspapers.

The successful candidates will be multi platform journalists working for our popular daily title and award-winning website.

Candidates should be enthusiastic, versatile, creative and prepared to go the extra mile to find the stories for our innovative and highly respected title. They must be accurate, multi-media skilled and be able to work calmly under pressure to meet tight deadlines.

The roles, which involve shift working including evenings and weekends, would suit someone who is qualified to at least NQJ accredited senior journalist or equivalent with a passion for news.

Anyone interested in applying should email Editor's secretary Karen Baker at karen.baker@expressandstar.co.uk. Please indicate in your application if you have a driving licence.

Closing date for applications: 6th April, 2018

Owners of Express & Star Ltd and Shropshire Newspapers Ltd

Express & Star

BARGAIN

TOYOTA YARIS
COLOUR COLLECTION
MODEL

2002, 5-dr, one owner, (now retired from driving)
Always garaged.
Well maintained, MoT'd, recent tyres and battery, alloy wheels, very clean.
£950.
01785 256183. 07908 815307.

Motorbikes

ALL BIKES WANTED Anything considered. Pristine, non runners, barn finds, unfinished projects. Highways 07971 793661 or 01902 773608.

Highway
WANTED Clean Used Bikes
MOT White-U-Wait
No Re Test Fee
****MARCH SPECIAL****
**** MOT £29.65****
OIL & OIL FILTER CHANGE FROM £29.99
****QUICK FIT TYRES****
****QUICK FIT CHAIN & SPROCKETS****
PHONE FOR BEST PRICES
WOLLEY STREET WOLVERHAMPTON
01902 773608
highway-motorcycles.co.uk

Scrap Vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCE
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

Vehicles Wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

CARS WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE!
Runners/ Non Runners, MOT Failures.
Can Collect. Cash Waiting!
Classic Cars, Scrap Cars, Motoring Memorabilia and Garage Tools Wanted!
Call 07790 032224
01902 823933

spares & accessories

Accessories & Services

ROOF BOX and rack, universal, lockable, complete, good condition, £260 o.n.o. 07722 486316.

MOT's

MOTs ONLY £27.42
formula one autocentres
CANNOCK WS11 OBN
01543 50 20 00
F1AUTOCENTRES.COM

Tow Bars & Trailers

3 BIKE motor cycle trailer, 3 new tyres. Excellent condition. Tows very well. £695.
Tel. Cannock 07951 224740

9
Local Information

Public Notices

GOODS VEHICLE
OPERATOR'S LICENCE

W. E. Stevens Haulage Contractors Limited trading as W. E. Stevens Haulage of 312 Hednesford Road, Norton Canes, Cannock, Staffs, WS11 9SA is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To add an operating centre at Compound 7, Watling Street Business Park, Cannock, Staffs, WS11 9XG.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.
Dated: March 23, 2018

GOODS VEHICLE
OPERATOR'S LICENCE

European Textile Recycling Ltd trading as ETR Logistics Ltd of 5 Hollies Business Park, Hollies Park Road, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 1DB is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra 0 goods vehicles and 6 trailers at the operating centre at 5 Hollies Business Park, Hollies Park Road, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 1DB. To add an operating centre to keep 10 goods vehicles and 10 trailers at Storage Plot, Hollies Park Road, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 1DW from 6 weekly trailer inspections to 12 weekly trailer inspections. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.
Dated: March 23 2018

GWENDOLINE IRENE ELSIE HORTON (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Alma Court Care Centre Heath Way Cannock, who died on 26/05/2017 are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before two months from the date of this publication, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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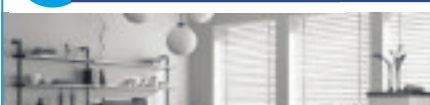
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International game to honour legend Cyrille

ENGLAND under-21 host Romania at Molineux this weekend in a tribute to football legend Cyrille Regis. Kick-off on Saturday is 5.15pm. The friendly contest has been dubbed the Cyrille Regis International.

Ahead of the game, wreaths will be laid by the legendary forward's former clubs Albion, Wolves, Villa and Coventry – as well as England – and a minute's applause will be held.

Regis, who won five senior international caps, and also scored three goals in six appearances for the under-21s, died in January aged 59.

Current under-21s boss Aidy Boothroyd and Regis's former Albion teammate Brendon Batson both hailed the decision to honour the striker.

Boothroyd said: "He was a fantastic footballer and he broke the ground for a lot of other black players to come through and play in the English leagues."

Batson added: "I'm delighted this game has been named in honour of Cyrille. He was a great footballer, but an even greater guy."

Opening night of darts academy hits bullseye

THE opening night of the West Midlands Darts Academy certainly hit the bullseye. Allen's Sports Bar in Tipton was the venue for the venture that aims to get youngsters aged between six and 17 interested in the game.

Organiser and coach Russell Dingley said 25 young dart aces checked in for the opening night. He said: "I expected six or seven kids, so it was a fantastic turnout. The darting community around here is massive so we were really happy with the opening."

Alfie Jacques, who won the JDC tour in 2017 aged just 14, turned out to support the opening of the academy. He said: "It was fantastic to see such a great turnout, because it shows how many people are interested in darts."

"It's great for players like me because I know that I've got competition and I've got to keep up and play against players like this because they are going to come on just as well as I have in the future."

For more details about the academy, search West Midlands Junior Darts Academy on Facebook.

Extra seats as fans flock to Edgbaston

EDGBASTON is to increase its capacity for its three highest profile matches this year. Warwickshire announced they are to install a temporary stand to increase the ground's 24,550 capacity by 850 seats as England face Australia in an international T20 match on June 27, for the First Test against India from August 1 and for the domestic T20 Blast finals day on September 15.

A temporary extra tier of seating will be placed above the Stanley Barnes Stand. Gareth Roberts, commercial director at Warwickshire CCC, said: "This will be the third time in the last four years that we have brought in a temporary stand as a result of the popularity of the fixtures we are hosting."

"The Vitality IT20 against Australia is now 75 per cent sold out, while year-on-year ticket sales for Vitality Blast Finals Day are 170 per cent up on last year."

"We've also seen huge demand for day three of the Test match against India, which will be a very special occasion as England's 1,000th Test."



Joe Morrell, Mya Brown, Sam Rushworth and Alex Monte-Godfrey



Joseph Mongan with Mya Brown who bagged a bronze and silver

Karate ace still gets kick out of teaching

A KARATE ace has rekindled his love for the sport thanks to his stepson's curiosity.

Joseph Mongan is a former Funakoshi world champion. He's also an ex-World Karate Federation European champion, a Commonwealth bronze medalist, and a third Dan black belt.

After admittedly falling out of love with a sport he has now rediscovered his passion after stepson Leo found his medals and his interest piqued.

Joseph had run a successful academy in Ipswich, but left it behind to move to Staffordshire with his wife. Following the gentle nudge from Leo, Joseph set up JGM Karate Academy in Norton Canes, near Cannock, and his current crop are beginning to replicate his success.

Three of them have picked up medals at national level, just two years since he opened the academy.

"Leo was searching through some stuff and just happened to stumble across my medals and trophies in a box," said Joseph.

Impressive

"He asked me if I would teach him, and that's where it all started, really. I had an academy back in Ipswich which me and my brother ran, and we had a lot of success there – some of our students won some very impressive medals."

The JGM Karate Academy now boasts more than 100 members – the oldest a grandmother in her 70s – with training at Jerome Primary School, Norton Canes Community Centre and Burntwood Leisure Centre. The club's first black belt vies to become a Dan in April and other club members are on their way to claiming belts.

Joseph accepts members from all age groups, backgrounds and abilities, and they have recently competed at the Kyu Grade English National Championships – picking up four medals.

Joe Morell, aged 16, the club captain, won bronze in the Kata. Sam Rushworth, 14, also picked up a bronze in Kata at the 14-15 age group, and Mya Brown, 11, bagged both a bronze in the Kata and a

SPORTING FEATURE

By Adam Washbrook

"Some come because they perhaps struggle to manage their anger, and the sport helps teach them discipline. We really have helped people in all ways, and it's very rewarding."

silver in the Kumite, making her a double national medalist. "Mya is looking at attending the British Championships in May, and we're working very closely with her," said Joseph.

"To be able to compete in both styles at her age is a fantastic achievement."

"There's international championships later in the year, in Poland and Venice. There's a chance we could have members competing in those too."

There has also been success at the USA Open, Central England Championships, The Yorkshire Open and the KAA National Championships.

"We have very high hopes for them and their futures," added Joseph.

But while there is success on the mat, Joseph admits money is sometimes a cause for concern, especially since Karate England cut the funding it used to provide.

"The students deserve recognition, and the sport needs it," he said. "We're actively looking for sponsorships because equipment and travel to tournaments and such doesn't come free."

"Without the recognition and the Press for these events, people don't know we need the sponsorship and it can be difficult at times. At the moment, parents fund the majority of event par-

ticipation, and we do what we can to help.

"For the English Nationals, we put on a raffle at the Christmas party. People were very kind and we made £100 for the students, which we contributed towards the competitors' fees, meaning they paid around £15 per event."

A 100 Kata challenge last week has so far raised around £350 which will help towards tournament entry and travel. More than 20 club members took part in the challenge to do 100 Katas.

Joseph himself has also been sent back to school to learn a new style for his students. "I regraded Shotokan to help some of my students. It was a certainly a challenge!" he said.

"It was a lot of hard work and a lot of late nights, but I got there. It's very interesting the difference in fitness and strength conditioning required, but it sparks my enjoyment to be learning something new, and to develop and push myself."

Discipline

Though his students' medals are at the forefront of his success, the 33-year-old says there are many more rewarding factors to teaching. It's something he says has taken him by surprise. "I was telling my wife, it's almost unbelievable the variety of reasons that we have people come to the academy," he added.

"We've had people coming looking to learn basic self-defence, some coming to improve their fitness. You kind of expect those, but then on the other side of the spectrum we've had people come who are low on confidence and who use it to help them grow."

"Some come because they perhaps struggle to manage their anger, and the sport helps teach them discipline. We really have helped people in all ways, and it's very rewarding."

With karate now an official sport for the 2020 Olympics, Joseph hopes the academy can grow in line with the sport.

"We're looking to start a karate league soon and invite other clubs in the area so that we can raise the competition standard."

To get involved with the academy, contact them via their Facebook page – JGM Karate Academy.

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Sporting in the box seat for title glory

HAVING finally climbed into pole position in the West Midlands League Premier Division, Wolves Sporting boss Andy Paddock is now braced for the next challenge – staying there.

A 4-2 success over Ellesmere Rangers lifted title favourites Sporting to the top of the standings and with games in hand over all of their title rivals.

A blistering start to the season saw Sporting lead the way early on, but an impressive run in the FA Vase and a couple of defeats saw them fall behind a few of their rivals, although they had played fewer league matches.

But a recent run of four straight wins has fired them into top spot – and Paddock is delighted.

“The lads knew that if they won on Saturday they would go top, and I think that inspired them,” said Paddock, who saw two goals from Chad Birch and single strikes from Angelo Franco and Dimitri Dunkley clinch the win.

“Ellesmere are a good side but I think 4-2 flattered them because we missed chance after chance.

“We went 1-0 down on Saturday playing against the wind and then we got two good goals to go in 2-1 up at half-time,” Paddock added.

“You could see at half-time when Ellesmere walked off that they were dejected and I knew we would win then.

“And we did it with three centre-halves missing.

“We had to play a right winger, Phil McCurdy, and Ben Perks, who hadn’t played for three months, at the back. And the two of them were exceptional.”

In the other top-flight matches, Wolverhampton Casuals bagged a 2-2 draw at Hereford Lads Club while Bewdley won 4-0 at Shifnal. Dudley Town returned from Wellington with a point following a 1-1 draw.

Scholars suffer a setback in race to the play-offs

Bedworth Utd 2 Chasetown 0
CHASSETOWN were beaten in their tussle for the Evo-Stik One South play-offs by rivals Bedworth United.

The game was played with a dusting of snow on the pitch and in very poor visibility. The hosts took the lead in the 26th minute when they won a penalty and Alex Troke sent Curtis Pond the wrong way from 12 yards.

It was a feisty affair at times with plenty at stake, but clear-cut chances were at a premium at both ends.

Bedworth doubled their lead 15 minutes from time when a corner ricocheted through the visitors’ defence and Jamie McAteer stabbed the ball home.

Chasetown struggled to find a way back into the game, with a solitary Will Whieldon effort late on the only shot the Scholars registered on target.

Self-defence star comes to town



Justo Dieguez gets to grips with Rob Trow

THE founder of the Keysi founding method was the star guest at a seminar in Rugeley last weekend.

Justo Dieguez developed the self-defence method from his experiences of fighting on the streets of Spain and appeared at Rugeley Leisure Centre for the gathering of nationwide instructors on Saturday. Together with

tutors from Birmingham, Manchester, Milton Keynes and Scotland, there were others willing to learn more about the art.

He was brought to the town by advanced instructor Rob Trow, who runs Keysi classes on Mondays from 7 to 8pm, at St Pauls Church Hall, in Lichfield Street in the town.

Some 18 students are members

of the Rugeley club, aged from 12 to 54, and a number recently passed their grading to become open or advanced fighters.

Rob said: “They have all shown great commitment and we are very proud at their level of development they have all shown.”

For details, call Rob on 07739 093573 or email Rob.tcb@sky.com

PITMEN GAIN HOME REVENGE

Hednesford Town 3 Marine 2

THE Pitmen came from behind to pick up all the points and gain revenge for a defeat at Marine the previous weekend.

The visitors could have been excused for having their minds on other things at the start of the match after their team coach caught fire as they approached Keys Park. Thankfully no-one was injured, and all the kit and supplies were saved.

In bitterly cold conditions, with frequent snow showers, all that either side had to show in the opening exchanges of this Evo-Stik Premier encounter was a long-range effort by James Short which went well over in the fourth minute.

Marine opened the scoring in the 29th minute though when, in a snow-storm, a ball down the right wing caught the Pitmen out and Danny Mitchell’s low cross into the box caused confusion with Ben Bailey putting the ball into his own net.

The Pitmen drew level seven minutes into the second half when a ball was played into James Lawrie on the edge of the box and he curled in an effort that took a slight deflection. Hednesford edged ahead in the 63rd minute as Tom Thorley fired in a shot that was palmed up into the air by Martin Fearon in the Marine goal, only for Danny Glover to nod home from six yards out.

Back came the away side though and, after Mitchell saw a shot go right across the goal in the 67th minute, Amis was then denied by Wren after breaking through three minutes later.

Hednesford extended their lead in the 72nd minute when James Fitzgibbon did well to pick out Glover on the edge of the box with the striker able to swivel and shoot home from the edge of the box. Marine reduced the arrears in the 86th minute after Michael Brewster picked out Mitchell and the striker fired home from 15 yards out.

Lily in pink over England call



Lily with father Darren Simkin

A PROUD former Wolves and Hednesford Town player has seen his daughter pull on an England shirt.

Darren Simkin, now 47, played 15 first team games for Wolves in the 1990s and won the FA Trophy with the Pitmen in 2004. He was present to see his 14-year-old daughter Lily play for England Women’s u-15s.

Lily, of Great Wyrley, a Birmingham City La-



Lily with Birmingham and England team-mates

dies FC defender, played in two games against a Swiss under-16s side at the Lipo Park Stadium, in Schaffhausen. England won both, by 2-0 and 3-1 scorelines. She was joined in the squad, by Birmingham team-mates Missy Goodwin and Laura Brown.

A pupil at Cheslyn Hay Sport & Community High, Lily represented Wyrley Juniors FC and has been inducted into the club’s hall of fame.

Few chances in defeat by Trojans

Cannock Hockey L1s 0 Trojans 3
AN early goal from Trojans saw them go 1-0 up before getting a second from a short corner before half-time. Unfortunately Cannock created few chances and Trojans soon bagged their third.

Meanwhile, Cannock L2s were beaten 9-1 by Nottingham University in a mid-week David and Goliath clash.

Nottingham are undefeated all season and quickly took the lead in the first half. Cannock retaliated with a well taken reverse shot from Bethan Till but were then placed under lots of pressure. Half-time: 4-1. A very tough game but an extremely resilient performance from the Cannock second team.

Cannock L3s beat Barton 6-0, scoring twice in the last 10 minutes of the first half and maintaining possession in Barton’s half to finish off the game, Vicky Wilkes & Jenna Martin getting three goals each.

Cannock L4s lost 1-0 at Stafford 2s, who are sitting comfortably at top of the table. Cannock came off the pitch disappointed but can take a lot of positives from the game considering they lost 10-0 to them in the first half of the season.

Cannock L5s shared four goals with Lichfield 6s. Lichfield started strongly and were rewarded with a goal. Cannock fought back hard but unfortunately a second goal conceded not long after.

However, goals from Emma Thomas and Mandy McCall made the half-time score 2-2. It was a great result as Cannock 5ths were beaten last time 8-1.

Lead widens without even playing a game

BURNWOOD stretched their lead at the top of Midlands 3 West North on Saturday without taking the field.

Harborne could not raise a side for the re-arranged fixture at The Sportsway and chose to concede a home walkover to Sean Latham’s men. With games postponed elsewhere, Burnwood now lead the division by 11 points. Burnwood are at home to Stafford on Saturday (3pm) and then travel to Telford on April 7.

This Saturday is also BRUFC Patrons’ Day. A full programme of activities has been arranged.

The 2nd XV also face Stafford but travel in the opposite direction.

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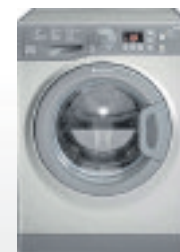
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